

# HALESOWEN CHRONICLE



Thursday, April 18, 2013

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Page 5



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Page 40



## Pensioner died after getting off a bus

AN 87-year-old woman died after falling as she got off a bus that had a defective kneeling platform, an inquest heard.

Nancy Willetts suffered a head injury in the fall as she stepped off the single-decker, travelling between Dudley and Merry Hill shopping centre.

The inquest at Dudley Coroner's Court heard the kneeling platform on the bus, lowered to help elderly or disabled people board the vehicle, was not working.

Keith Williams, who was driving the 243 bus, said he had reported the platform issue but was told it was allowed to run.

He told Dudley Coroner's Court: "I remember Miss Willetts getting on the bus. She had a trolley. I offered to help her get on but she declined."

Mr Williams said she again refused to be helped as she left the bus. He added: "She put her trolley on the pavement but then she stepped on to the back wheel of the trolley and fell."

Miss Willetts, a retired waitress of Apperley Way, Halesowen, was left unconscious following the accident on July 11 last year. She was taken to Russells Hall Hospital and died that night.

A letter from National Express to Black Country coroner Robin Balmain said the company now made sure buses without working kneeling platforms were not used, regardless of their age. Mr Balmain recorded a verdict of accidental death.

## Death ruled an accident

A VERDICT of accidental death was recorded on a Stourbridge care worker who suffered severe injuries after the car she was travelling in hit a wall and a tree.

Samantha Jennings, 26, died in the smash along the A449 at Cookley. She was not wearing a seatbelt, the hearing heard.

● Victim - See Page 2

# CHURCH WILL BE HUB OF BIG PLAN

by Andrew Turton

**AMBITIOUS plans to rejuvenate a church in the heart of Cradley including the creation of an open public square have been unveiled by leaders.**

It's hoped the project at Providence Methodist Church will help to kick-start the regeneration of the town. The church, off Windmill Hill, will be refurbished and a social cafe, training kitchen and apartments built as part of a Cradley Community Hub.

The revamped church will house its existing lunch club, gentle exercise and dance workshops as well as a local nursery and space for sports including badminton and aerobics.

There will be huge glass windows and eye-catching architecture as well as towering windows pouring light into modern community rooms. While sculpted walkways leading people from the church to an open public square have been showcased.

Church member Hannah Wilkinson-Jones said: "A consultation took place last summer to identify the needs of the community and we now have a good idea what is needed."

"The church is very excited about the refurbishment. Regular events like the lunch club and table top sales are an important part of our outreach activities and we hope the regeneration project will help to meet more of the community's needs."

### Factored

Exact figures on how much the work will cost have not been factored until further discussions are held with architects. Residents and church members were asked what facilities they would like to see at the revamped church.

These ideas have helped to shape the new designs to be discussed in the coming weeks.

Church members also want to link with officials from welfare group Black Country Foodbank which supplies vital food and clothing to struggling families. It is hoped the foodbank would become tenants of the neighbouring Orchard Works, a locally-listed former Sunday School off Windmill Hill.

The foodbank will use the Orchard Works as a distribution point for both food and clothing as well as an advice centre and training kitchen for people cooking on a budget. Work on the building, which could also feature social housing, is hoped to get underway as soon as possible.

Dudley Council has already held long-term ambitions to regenerate Cradley and Colley Gate areas. But residents have grown restless with the lack of progress. A community meeting is due to take place on Monday at The Laurels Club, opposite the church, to discuss their concerns.

The car, a Peugeot 406, had come to a stop in the middle of the street. A passenger who was in the car escaped with only minor injuries but when Mr Crowley rushed outside after hearing a huge bang he realised another man was trapped under the car.

"I don't really know how I did it but I could see he was caught underneath the engine and I managed to lift the weight off him and push the car back around a metre or so," said Mr Crowley, who works in double glazing. "I suppose it was just the adrenaline and the fact I knew I had to help him."

Mr Crowley checked the man was still breathing and sat talking to him until paramedics arrived.

Police, paramedics and firefighters from Tipton were all called to the scene following the crash at 1.30am on Saturday.

## Gail will run for victim Kerry



Gail Bradley with Sara Ward, executive director of Sandwell Women's Aid

A HALESOWEN woman is preparing to run the London Marathon this weekend in memory of a friend who was murdered in Rowley Regis. Kerry Smith, a 29-year-old mother from the town, was fatally stabbed in 2011. David Palmer, her ex-partner, was jailed for life for the killing, which followed a campaign of abuse against Ms Smith during their relationship.

Now Gail Bradley, of Barnfield Road, has set herself the challenge of running the London Marathon on Sunday and a 69-mile Ultra Marathon on June 21. The money she raises will be split equally between a trust fund set up for Ms Smith's daughter Sammi, now aged three, and Sandwell Women's Aid. Ms Bradley, aged 42, said: "Kerry would have liked it going on things for the kiddies." Security arrangements for the Virgin London Marathon were being reviewed after two explosions at the Boston Marathon in America on Tuesday. Ms Bradley, who works for InterContinental Hotels Group in Brierley Hill, said: "It just makes me more determined to run it. You can't let the terrorists win." To sponsor Gail visit <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/runforkerry>.



Victim Kerry Smith

## Rule over colour of taxi cabs will stay

CONTROVERSIAL rules limiting taxi drivers to using only white cars are unlikely to be changed despite a protest bringing streets around Dudley to a standstill, a senior councillor said.

Dudley Private Hire and Taxi Association is battling to persuade Dudley Council to rethink its regulations on car colour.

Rush-hour traffic ground to a near-halt as cabbies staged the go-slow demonstration in the town on Monday (15) before a meeting of the full council. The association lost a vote of Dudley Council's taxi committee last month to abolish the rule and have threatened legal action.

Members say white cars are more expensive and they want a second colour to be introduced.

But despite the protest, members of the taxi committee said the matter was unlikely to be discussed again in the short-term and any possible change could be years away.

Committee member Councillor Jackie Cotterill said: "I don't believe this will come before the committee again at any time in the near future."

Chairman of Dudley Private Hire and Taxi Association Shaz Saleem, said he was pleased with the turnout at the protest and did not apologise for the disruption.

## Tributes to kitman Dave

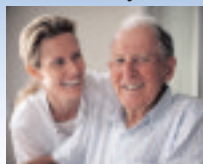
TRIBUTES have poured in after the death of former West Bromwich Albion kitman Dave Matthews.

Mr Matthews, who retired from the Baggies last year after 51 years' service, died at his home in Halesowen on Sunday, aged 67.

England manager Roy Hodgson, who left The Hawthorns on the day of Mr Matthews' retirement, said: "I was very sad to hear of Dave's passing." Mr Matthews, from Hasbury, Halesowen, began working at Albion the age of 15.

● Full story - Back page

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## NEWS

## CONTENTS

Peter Rhodes	4
Letters	7
Memory Lane	10
Club News	21
Puzzle Page	29
TV Listings	26-28
Property	30-31
Motoring	32-33
Classified	34-38
Sport	39-40

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## Crash victim was not wearing a belt



Samantha Jennings

A DUDLEY care assistant who was killed when the car she was in ploughed into a tree was not wearing a seatbelt, an inquest heard.

Samantha Jennings was in the front passenger seat of the black, Vauxhall, Astra when it crashed on the A449 at Cookley on December 8.

Worcestershire Coroners Court last week heard neither

the 26-year-old, of Aldridge Close, Stourbridge, or two men travelling in the car had been wearing seatbelts when the car crashed. The inquest was told Miss Jennings' boyfriend

Thomas Whitehouse had been driving and their friend Leander Mock was on the back seat.

Mr Geraint Williams said no alcohol had been found in Mr Whitehouse's blood but

cannabis was detected. However, he said it was not known when this had been taken.

Mr Williams said police could not say for certain what had happened. Mr Williams said tests on the vehicle had revealed no mechanical faults but had confirmed none of the occupants had been wearing seatbelts. The inquest heard from Mr Mock who said he had

called Mr Whitehouse and Miss Jennings earlier in the day and asked them to meet him in Stourbridge. Mr Mock said he had felt "a bump" before the car started to skid. He said he had blacked out.

A statement from Mr Whitehouse said he could not remember the events of the crash. A verdict of accidental death was recorded.

## Firm gets £14,000 bill after man falls

AN iron foundry has been landed with a court bill of more than £14,000 after a worker fell on a platform above a conveyor belt containing molten metal.

Anthony Latham escaped with bruising to his shoulder, arm and neck during the incident in Brierley Hill but health and safety chiefs said he could easily have fallen backwards into the molten metal stream.

Brookmoor Foundry Company Limited of Leys Road, pleaded guilty to a charge of breaching the Health & Safety at Work act at Dudley Magistrates Court last week after failing to carry out risk assessments at the factory.

The firm was charged following the incident in October 2011 when Mr Latham, aged 41, of Tipton, fell on a platform above a conveyor belt containing molten metal at 1,400C.

John Glynn, prosecuting on behalf of the HSE, said: "The incident was entirely avoidable."

Gary Lewis, defending, said: "The company has a dedicated health and safety manager and they take such incidents very seriously."

The firm was fined £10,400 for the breach and ordered to pay £4,000 costs.

## Bid for gym is approved

AN outdoor gym to be used by patients and staff will be built in the grounds of Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital after the scheme was given the green-light.

New equipment worth thousands, including assisted pull-up machines and chest presses, will be installed at the site, off Pennsnett Road.

Dudley Council officials approved the scheme by delegated decision.

Patients recovering from illnesses or operations will be able to use the new gym as part of their rehabilitation.

## Having your say

THERE will be a chance for people from areas of Stourbridge and Cradley to have their say about local issues at a forum on St George's Day. The event, due at Ambicote Church Hall, Vicarage Road, Stourbridge, on April 23 from 6.30 to 8.30pm, is organised by Dudley Council.

## Man, 36, posed as boy to get pictures of girls

A DUDLEY man who posed as a schoolboy on social network sites to chat up young girls and persuade them to send him indecent photographs has been jailed for 18 months.

Lee Heathcock, aged 36, exchanged BlackBerry Messenger posts with children as young as 11, talked about his school, used an image of a teenage boy as his profile picture, and adopted text speak acronyms to convince victims they were in touch with a child.

Heathcock, who police say is a prolific Dudley criminal, admitted 11 charges, including inciting children to engage in sexual activity and pornography and possessing indecent images.

He asked for six more offences to be taken into consideration. Wolverhampton Crown Court heard officers from West Midlands Police's Public Protection Unit had painstakingly searched more than 20,000 messages on his phone and uncovered more than 400 conversations with children.

**Encouraged**  
Once Heathcock felt he had struck up a relationship, his conversations with the children became sexual and sent indecent images and he encouraged the children to do the same.

Police found evidence of him exchanging sexually explicit images and chat with several youngsters from across the UK and overseas. Five of these girls were aged 12 and one was just 11.

Heathcock was jailed for 18 months, placed on the Sex Offender's Register for 10 years and banned from working with children.

The investigation began when Heathcock, a convicted burglar of no fixed address, was arrested by an off-duty police officer at a petrol station.

He had been wanted for recall to prison since October 2011.

Dudley Youth Court heard how the schoolboy, who cannot be named for legal reasons, was with friends throwing snowballs at vehicles at 10pm on January 17.

The teen picked up a rock and smashed the back window of a Vauxhall Zafira, a few minutes later he and his gang launched a fence post at a car driven by a woman, the court heard.

The teen and his two friends also threw a bin lid at another car.

The schoolboy pleaded guilty to three acts of criminal damage and to assault on a 13-year-old boy. Magistrates sentenced him to an 18-month rehabilitation order and an 18-month supervision requirement. He will have to wear a tag with a curfew of 7pm to 7am seven days a week and was ordered to pay £780 compensation.

## Stepping out to boost charity



Dudley Mayor and Mayoress Melvyn and Michelle Mottram start off the Stroke Association walk at the Dell Stadium before doing the first lap with the walkers

FUNDRAISERS took to the running track for a fun 5k challenge to raise money for a charity helping those recovering from strokes.

It was organised by people attending Dudley Stroke Association's weekly fitness classes at the Dell Stadium, Pensnett.

Classes have run for a year and members wanted to set themselves a challenge as well as raise cash for the charity.

About 20 people took part in the event, which was started by Mayor of Dudley Melvyn Mottram and his wife and Mayoress Michelle, who walked the first lap. Walkers were joined by workers from Dudley Stroke Association and park rangers. Organisers

are counting sponsor money and proceeds of a cake stall and tombola.

Charity trustee Anne Adams said they planned to make it an annual event after people completed as much as the walk as they were able to - some in stages.

She said: "It was so encouraging to see people who have had strokes walk around the track, even in short stages."

The mayor nominated the association as one of his charitable causes in his past year in office. People recovering from a stroke are also invited to join the Dell Fitness Class, which is organised through park rangers at the stadium each Wednesday between 10.30am and 11.30am.

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## Hospices to share out £60m

HOSPICES across the West Midlands have been granted a share of a £60 million to improve facilities.

Mary Stevens Hospice, Stourbridge, Acorns Children's Hospice, Walsall and Wolverhampton's Compton Hospice are among those to benefit.

Hospices in the Midlands will be sharing £8.2 million. Mary Stevens Hospice in Stourbridge will get just over £500,000.

David Prail, chief executive of Help the Hospices, today welcomed the investment and said it would make a "huge difference".

Acorns, which cares for hundreds of children across the Midlands, is set to receive a total of £453,000 with its Walsall site, in Walstead Road, Delves, getting £153,722.

The news comes just weeks after Acorns Children's Hospice, revealed it was aiming to expand over the next five years.

It hopes to reach out to 50 per cent more families by 2018 and will also create 150 more jobs.

David Strudley, chief executive of Acorns Children's Hospice, said he was delighted by the announcement.

## Police seek limping man

A MAN with a limp has been identified as a suspect in a burglary in which Asian gold worth thousands was stolen.

The jewellery was taken along with thousands in cash during from a house on Sovereign Drive, Milking Bank, Dudley.

Police say they are now looking for a man with a limp. Pc Nick Slyn, from Dudley CID, said: "The victim is desperate for us to find whoever is responsible."

"The suspect has got a limp which is fairly prominent and appears to be a disability rather than a recent injury. I want to know who he is."

## Fears over seal

A LOST seal nicknamed Keith, who took a wrong turn and swam 100 miles inland, is feared to have perished in the freezing weather after no reported sightings for a month. The 4ft seal, who is a female, has become a local celebrity in Bewdley and Stourport after she was spotted frolicking in rivers.

# Owen had 'proper and careful treatment'



Tragic Owen Jeremy

SPORTY eight-year-old Owen Jeremy died from natural causes – despite "proper, careful and appropriate" treatment from hospital staff – after an asthma attack, a coroner has ruled.

During the emotional inquest – Owen's mother sobbed and clutched his favourite Scooby Doo toy.

The hearing was told the youngster panicked and tore off his mask after staff at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital gave him an adrenaline nebuliser to boost his intake of air.

Owen, of Primrose Hill, Wordsley,

went into respiratory arrest and died just after midnight on May 24, having been admitted to hospital the previous afternoon after suffering an asthma attack at school.

Earlier he had been playing football at Fairhaven Primary School, Wordsley, and the day before that he got his 50m swimming badge.

Owen's mother, Rowena, whose job with the Met Office includes looking at the effect of weather conditions on health, said, when they first arrived at hospital, Owen was "playful and chatty". But it had been "unbearably

hot" in the children's ward, where there was only one fan between two beds, and her son developed a dry cough and was very red.

"When it was hot or humid he would always get very wheezy and at home we had a fan heater air cooler to keep the house at a normal temperature," she said.

Mrs Jeremy, now of Clock Tower View, Wordsley, said Owen's condition changed at about 10pm. "He was very scared – he was scared about being in hospital, scared he was going to die, scared to have a needle put in him."

Miss Anna Diamond, representing the family, questioned staff closely during the five-hour inquest in Smethwick about Owen's treatment, including the heat on the ward and the decision to give him an adrenaline nebuliser after he panicked and refused to let a doctor insert an intravenous line for medication.

But Black Country Coroner Mr Robin Balmain, recording that Owen's death from acute asthma was natural causes, said: "It seems to me he has had extremely careful and competent treatment."

# Parents seeking legal advice over 'disappointing' ruling

THE parents of Owen Jeremy have spoken of their "disappointment" at an inquest verdict that laid no blame at the door of the hospital where he was treated.

Owen's parents, Rowena and David Jeremy, are now considering whether to take legal action over Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital's treatment of him when he was admitted after an asthma attack.

Mrs Jeremy, of Clock Tower View, Wordsley, said, despite a "natural causes" verdict in which the coroner described Owen's care as being "proper, careful and appropriate", she has been told the hospital's own inquiry has ruled the effectiveness of the youngster's treatment with nebulisers was not evaluated.

She said she was told by the hospital that an order has been issued to staff on the children's ward to make sure the effectiveness of nebulisers is evaluated and documented, as one of the "learning points" from the tragedy.

"We are disappointed by the inquest verdict and that the coroner did not feel there was any neglect," said Mrs Jeremy, aged 38, who works for the MET Office.

"We are now working with our legal team to see where we go from here. Key for us is the monitoring of the effectiveness of treatment with nebulisers." The inquest, in Smethwick last week, heard Owen was given at least four

by Louise Jew

nebulisers of Salbutamol, used to open up the air passages in the lungs, before it was found to be having little effect.

An attempt by a doctor to insert an intravenous line for medication failed when Owen, who had told his mother he was "scared of dying", panicked.

When staff then gave him a nebuliser containing the stress hormone adrenaline, he ripped off his mask, went into respiratory arrest and died just after midnight on May 24. Owen was the only child of 38-year-old Mrs Jeremy and her husband, aged 41.

Paula Clark, chief executive of the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, said: "Any death of a patient is tragic but a child's death is particularly so. We would like to take this opportunity once again to express our sincere condolences to the family of Owen Jeremy. A thorough review was undertaken and the Trust acknowledges the coroner's verdict."

## Video evidence plan

West Mercia Police could soon be regularly giving their evidence over a video link at court hearings. Police officers are often called to give evidence at criminal trials and have to take time out of their duties or use time off to do this. Supt Kevin Purcell, of the Wyre Forest, Redditch and Bromsgrove districts' team, said officers may be giving evidence over a video link at a venue away from the court in future.

This would save time and money for the force, he added.

## Jobseekers boxing clever for work



Coach Kevin Dillon with Roxanne Kerrigan and other students who did a boxing course to help find themselves a job

JOBSEEKERS got the chance to sharpen their fitness while earning a qualification aimed at helping them find work during a course at a boxing club.

The three-day event was organised by Stourbridge College and took place at Lions Boxing Club in Brierley Hill.

Eight people looking for work were offered the chance to gain a free Level One Boxing Development Award. They also got the chance to earn a qualification

to help them in their search for work. Alongside a two-hour boxing training session, candidates took part in three-hour theory sessions each day.

Bosses at Stourbridge College developed the course after staff at the boxing club said many visited to keep fit while unemployed. The eight people taking part in the course were chosen by the club.

Employability manager at Stourbridge College, Shaun Hall, said: "We

work closely with Lions Boxing Club to deliver sports courses to our 16 to 18-year-old students.

"They mentioned a lot of people attend the club especially to keep fit while they are unemployed and looking for work."

"We thought it would be great if we could tailor a course to suit them."

Among those taking part was gym user Roxanne Kerrigan, who said: "I enjoyed the course."

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## NEWS

## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



THE First World War kicked off in Bosnia. Argentina invaded the Falklands. North Korea is threatening to attack Guam. It is a worrying theme of history that was tend to start in places you can't find on the map.

□□□□□□□□

A SURVEY reveals that the worst thing you can say to a plump but non-pregnant woman is: "When's the baby due?" At least it's better than: "Twins, is it?"

□□□□□□□□

GIRL Guides have voted overwhelmingly for the Sun to scrap its Page 3 nudes. I bet they are pushing at an open door. Rupert Murdoch hinted only a few weeks ago that he was considering the future of the tabloid's daily diet of flesh. If mighty Murdoch bows to the will of the Girl Guides it will win him a little credit in these dodgy, post-Leveson times.

□□□□□□□□

I DID not much care for Maggie Thatcher or some of the changes she wrought. But I find it odd that so many people who were barely out of their prams when she was in power have such violent opinions about her. If you can't remember the 1970s, you are entitled to your opinion but your rage is purely bogus.

□□□□□□□□

SO FAREWELL, Paris Brown, the 17-year-old "youth police and crime commissioner" (no, I don't remember voting for them either). She has resigned after messages she posted on Twitter were denounced as racist and homophobic. Part of me feels sorry for her. We all do stupid things as kids and it was a lot easier in a pre-Twitter age to be forgiven and to move on. These days, one daft, drunken remark can haunt you for ever.

□□□□□□□□

THEY say daylight is the best disinfectant. Press exposure of compensation claims made by thousands of police officers reveals that something is rotten in the system and must be cleansed. We now know that about 2,000 officers a year are being awarded damages, often for slipping, tripping or falling on private property while responding to 999 calls. And in each of those 2,000 cases, we are seriously supposed to believe it was all somebody else's fault. Do you buy that? Me neither.

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Mother waits in Korea as rumours of war rise

**DUDLEY mother Irina James is waiting "on tenterhooks" with her bags packed ready to flee South Korea in the wake of sabre-rattling war talk from the country's northern neighbour.**

Irina recently moved from Norton, in Stourbridge, to the South Korean capital of Seoul.

The former language coordinator at Halesowen College is now based at an international school in Seoul. The school, where she is head of languages, has advised pupils and staff to be packed ready to evacuate to Thailand if the threat from North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un is stepped up.

German-born Irina, who is in her mid-50s, said: "We are on tenterhooks here. Bags packed, ready for evacuation to Thailand. It's tense, but we are still sitting tight. Business as usual. We foreigners have, hopefully, a ticket out of here, when push comes to shove."

"The South Koreans have nowhere to go. I am thinking of my colleagues, the kindest and most helpful people you could wish for. They have to endure these threats and odious rhetoric year after year. The South Koreans, although concerned, are a stoic lot. They have heard it all before."

"This time it is more aggressive though."

Irina said people in Seoul were bracing themselves in case Kim Jong Un followed up his warlike gesturing with action.

"This is what we think will happen. From now onwards we can expect a rocket making its way to one of the islands," she said. "Kim Jong Un's father did something similar a few years back."

"Because it is his father's birthday on April 15 and Kim Jong Un has opened his mouth wide, something has to happen, otherwise he will lose face before his people."

"People in Seoul are OK at the moment. We have all registered with our respective embassies and they would alert us about any imminent emergencies, measures and evacuation procedures."

Irina, who has two grown-up sons, was brought up in Berlin but came to England in 1987 and settled in Stourbridge.

She took up her present role in Seoul in October.

## Vandals shoot at windows



Reverend Simon Falshaw by the damaged stained glass memorial window

VANDALS have shot holes in a stained glass church window installed as a memorial to soldiers who died in the Second World War.

Worshippers at Christ Church, High Street, Lye, were devastated to find six bullet-shaped holes had been made in the ornate window, including one in the arm of a soldier depicted on the glass.

Although the glass is protected by a wire mesh to stop bricks, the protection was not enough to prevent airgun pellets.

The window is engraved with the names of men from the town who were killed during the war. It is believed to have been installed in the early 1950s as a lasting

memorial. Rev Simon Falshaw said everyone had been very upset by the attack on the window but pledged it would be repaired.

"The window was shot with an airgun which has made six or seven holes in the glass," he said. "It is a beautiful window. It really is devastating someone would do this."

"Repairs will be carried out but it may be a long process. Most of the costs will be covered by insurance but there will be an excess to pay of between £500 and £1,000."

Rev Falshaw said people could contribute to the repairs if they wished by calling him on 01384 423142.

## Councils teaming up to help find jobs

COUNCILS across the Black Country are to join forces on a new multi-million pound project to help people in the region find work.

Authorities have drawn up the Black Country Growth Opportunities, Local Delivery scheme known as Gold to look at ways to support cash-strapped businesses hit during the current economic crisis.

Each council will commit up to £147,000 which will be fed into wider multi-million funding projects, some backed by European cash, to re-invigorate the region's business sector.

Speaking of the overall investment plans, Wolverhampton regeneration boss Councillor Peter Bilson said: "Collectively these projects have the potential to make a significant and positive impact on economic growth, job and employment opportunities in the city."

The Gold scheme will use money to pay for advice clinics, workshops and grants.

## Woman is freed

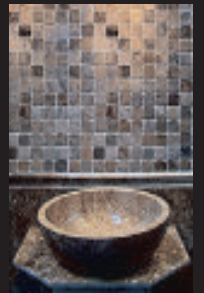
AN injured woman had to be cut free after a car and taxi collided at the junction of St James's Road and The Parade, Dudley, at about 6.45am on Friday. The woman, aged 55, was freed from the car and taken to hospital. The male drivers of the car and the taxi were unhurt.

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## Maternity unit set to get £41,000

A MATERNITY unit at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital will get a £41,000 revamp to help women receive "the best possible care" thanks to a Government grant.

Cash will be spent on refurbishing the Midwife Led Unit (MLU) to create a "homely" setting for mothers-to-be. It is offered to pregnant women, who are considered low risk, as an alternative to home birth.

The work will include fitting subdued lighting to resemble a star-lit sky, installing artwork and providing birthing balls, stools, mats and bean bags to add to the popular birth pool.

Active birth classes will be offered to help women familiarise themselves with the hospital's labour and birth equipment to help them feel less anxious about giving birth.

The hospital's maternity department received the cash as part of a nationwide £25 million Department of Health scheme to help improve maternity facilities.

Head of midwifery Steph Mansell said there had been an increasing demand on the hospital's maternity services, which reached more than 5,000 births in the 2011/12 financial year.

## Fair to aid church

A SPRING fair will be held at a church in Halesowen on Saturday. Hurst Green Methodist Church on Narrow Lane will host the event from 2pm. All money raised will go towards the maintenance of the church.

# Meat, laughs and brass are all part of Black Country life

**WHETHER it's metal workers raising scolding hot brass from a kiln at the Black Country Living Museum or butchers carve prime cuts to display in the shop window Dudley artist Keith Turley has captured them all.**

Mr Turley has toured the region with his camera capturing people and places – and each scene has been recreated as a labour of love on canvas for the artist's latest exhibition.

And local comic Tommy Mundon gave his blessing to a painting of him telling gags on stage.

Mr Turley has painted many famous faces including Tommy Cooper, Ronnie Barker and Leslie Phillips.

But the 63-year-old former teacher has turned his easel to subjects closer to home for his latest exhibition called All in a Day's Work featuring around 60 paintings created over the past three years.

The exhibition at Himley Hall, near Dudley, runs until September 1 with Mr Turley hopeful of paying regular visits to chat about his work.

### Photographs

"You can't beat painting, it's my life nowadays and I love it," said the father of two from Heathbrook Avenue, Wall Heath.

Many of his images are painstakingly created over around four weeks using an extensive range of photographs to help him capture his subject.

He asked Tommy Mundon if he would be one of his subjects for an exhibition he was putting together for the Dudley Society of Arts of which Mr Turley is a member.

"I asked him as I wanted to paint one of the Black Country's well-known people with local links for the exhibition and he was really chuffed actually," said Mr Turley.



Artist Keith Turley and cabinet member for environment and culture Tracy Wood, with some of his work on show at Himley Hall

For his explosive work capturing a fiery kiln at the Black Country Living Museum, Mr Turley used more vivid oils. He watched one of the demonstrators Chris for around half-an-hour taking pictures of the processes behind making horse brasses. The painting, called Lifting the Pot, harks back



Lifting the Pot - brass casting in Dudley



Vivid - Lloyds Butchers in Wall Heath

to the Black Country's industrial heritage, some Mr Turley says was a main theme for his exhibition.

He had noticed two shop scenes on his travels through his home village of Wall Heath – including being captivated by the vivid red meat in the window of his local

butchers. He approached David Lloyd, owner of the family butchers in Enville Road, after seeing their striking shop front packed with meats.

The exhibition is open at Himley Hall, off Himley Road, from Tuesday to Sunday between 2pm and 5pm. Admission is free.

## NEWS in brief

### £500,000 to keep officers on beat

WEST Mercia Police will spend about £500,000 equipping officers with laptops or tablets so they can spend more time on the beat.

The force will give hundreds of its 2,100 officers the hardware so they can complete paperwork without having to return to their desks between jobs.

Superintendent Kevin Purcell said the cost would be repaid through savings, despite the force having to cut millions. He said: "Our biggest cost will always be officer hours and we must get maximum benefit for every hour we have."

### Plans for cottages handed approval

PLANS to restore three former weavers cottages have been approved despite reservations from some councillors.

Wyre Forest District Council's planning committee approved plans for the 18th century properties in Horsefair, Kidderminster.

Although the plans were given the go-ahead, a number of members said this was only because it was the only option on the table.

### Morrisons set to axe 700 workers

BACK office staff at every Morrisons store – including 50 in the West Midlands – are under threat of losing their jobs as the supermarket looks to axe 700 posts nationwide in cost-cutting moves.

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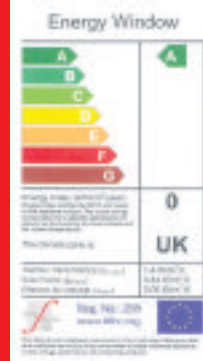
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## NEWS FEATURE

## IN MY VIEW

WITH  
MARK  
ANDREWS

I TRIED the BBC's new social class calculator three times, and came up with three different answers. Apparently, I can't be "traditional working class" because I don't go to "gigs". But should anybody over 40 admit to going to "gigs" anyway? We go to concerts, surely?

According to the research, the "established middle class" are gregarious individuals with "high cultural capital", whereas the "technical middle class" are a "small distinct group that aren't so social, but are into emerging culture such as gaming, the internet and rock music". Or teenagers, as we used to call them.

Where it falls down for me is that it seems to be less about what you do, and more about who you know.

Now many of us will be members of special interest groups which can result in some very strange results. For example, if you are a member of the Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts Club, your circle of friends may well include a mixture of mechanics and millionaires.

And given that "journalist" is not among the 18 occupations identified in the questionnaire, it seems that half of my friends don't exist. But thirdly, what about all those casual acquaintances we might socialise with on a regular basis, without ever discussing work?

Looking down the list, I know a teacher, a nurse and a university lecturer. I think a chap I meet twice a year might be an electrician, but I could have that wrong. Does the bloke who owns an engineering works in Bilston count as a chief executive?

The survey seems to assume we all live our social lives around the dinner party circuit.

Maybe those who came up with the questions think that the "traditional working class" when not at gigs, spend their time hosting their special brand of dinner parties. You know, where people sit around the table quaffing cans of Special Brew while watching videos of Jeremy Kyle, and discussing the life of a shop assistant or a lorry driver.

But I can't help think that while the survey tells us much about the social background of those who work at the BBC, it says very little about the rest of us.

A SCIENTIST in Iran, that most progressive and forward-thinking of nations, has patented a time machine which he says enables him to see into the future.

Ali Razeghi claims his Aryayek Time Travelling Machine can see up to eight years ahead, and predict future events with 98 per cent accuracy.

Sadly for Mr Razeghi, I fear somebody has beaten him to it. For many years there has been a device around which can show any Iranians what their country will – with any luck – look like in 50 to 100 years' time.

It's called the plane out of Iran.



David Daly at the Baggeridge Tea Rooms where he also sells dog treats



David outside the tea rooms with his own dog Chip and one of his leads

# Inventor David is leading the way

David Daly is enjoying global success with a safety device that could prevent dog bites as **WILL ACKERMANN** discovers

**AS the co-owner of a park café, David Daly regularly enjoys chatting with dog-walkers over a cup of tea.**

Now the entrepreneur from Swindon, near Wombourne, is experiencing global success with a product that could prevent more than one million dog bites every year.

David, who runs the Baggeridge Country Park Tea Shop with his wife Julie, is the inventor of a range of "behaviour sleeves" for the canine market. The "Gizapaw" products attach to harnesses and leads and use a colour coding system to indicate a dog's temperament, with green being 'safe' and red meaning 'caution'.

The idea is to stop people, particularly children, from petting a dog without knowing whether it is safe to do so.

## Chatting

The former aerospace engineer has already sold around 1,600 units at trade shows, online and at the Baggeridge Country Park shop.

"It all started about two years ago when I was over Baggeridge Country Park with my daughters," says David, aged 42. "They went to stroke what appeared to be a friendly dog and the next minute it lurched at them. Fortunately the owner was prepared for it and pulled the dog back."

"I got chatting to him and his words were, 'He's fine with me but doesn't like kids. I could really do with some way of warning people'. This got me thinking and I went away and came up with several ideas to solve this problem, eventually settling on the Gizapaw concept due to its simplicity, yet effectiveness."

David used strategic support and mentoring from the Manufacturing Advisory



David Daly runs a business selling leads that warn of potential problems, as well as being co-owner of Baggeridge Tea Rooms. He is with his dog Chip

Service's New Product Development programme to help him during the early-stages of his venture, before turning to Wolverhampton-based LS Manufacturing for production of the animal behaviour sleeves, which are reversible and embroidered on both sides.

He has also used exhibitions such as Crufts, Interzoo and Winners in Amsterdam to generate overseas demand from clients in Australia, Canada, Germany, Holland, Spain and the US.

And already he is expanding the business into other markets. For example, he is looking at creating dog jackets and has also launched animal behaviour sleeves for the equine market. These can be fitted to the horse's head collar,

bridle nose band or tail to warn people that the animal is either a novice or a 'kicker'.

"Horse owners currently use a coloured ribbon plaited into the tail to indicate temperament, but only people who are used to dealing with horses know this," says David. "Our solution makes it easy for everyone to understand."

For his dog products, the entrepreneur has received a 1,000-strong order from Betterware, as well as a letter of intent from the RSPCA for 4,500 units for its rehoming centres across England. The animal charity has also agreed to promote the range.

David believes his products could help workers there identify what stage

of resettlement dogs are at, in turn helping to reduce the number of attacks and help the organisation negotiate a more cost-effective insurance policy.

"Thirty thousand dogs are taken into rehoming centres each year, but you don't really know the true temperament of that dog," he says. "You don't know what it's gone through. These stray dogs have been put out for a reason. This is why dog bites are going up."

"It allows the dog to settle into its new environment and it makes people aware. Sixty per cent of dog bites are through children not doing that."

In a further bid to nationally promote responsible dog ownership, David has also sent a sample to MP Owen Paterson, secretary of state for the environment. He is also holding discussions to try to get his products used by the army, the RAF, West Midlands Police and the National Association of Security Dog Users.

"This shows the flexibility of our products, which are patented in the UK," says David. "If the order is large enough, we can manufacture in different colours and the text can be different to suit the messages you are trying to get across."

## Vision

If sales continue to rise, David's long-term vision is to bring manufacturing in-house at a dedicated factory in the West Midlands. But he says it is too early to make financial projections for the company.

"I just know from people I've spoken to this product at some stage is going to fly, but obviously it's early days," he says. "It's a labour of love and I know the product is making a difference."

MAS advisor David Nuttall also has faith in the innovation. He says: "David has shown tremendous determination in taking an exciting idea and turning it into commercial reality."

"There have been lots of challenges along the way, but his single-mindedness – mixed in with support from MAS – has ensured that he has overcome these and is now selling the product globally."

## THROUGH THE YEARS

### 1983...

RAILWAY passengers were at the centre of drama when their train broke down and needed to be pushed to safety by an inter-city express train. Passengers on the Birmingham – Wolverhampton service were stranded near Tipton, but the Coventry – Manchester service shunted them six miles into the city.

**COUNCILLORS** in Birmingham were on the ball when they met their opposite numbers who were visiting from Belfast. The two groups of councillors took part in a football match at Birmingham City's training ground.

A WOMAN claimed she had been driven out of her Wolverhampton council home by a poltergeist. Mrs June Zachariasz claimed that on one occasion a milk bottle flew through the air, smashing on the wall.

### 1993...

A SEVEN-YEAR-OLD Netherton boy rushed to save his mother as she lay semi-conscious from an electric shock. Wayne Chancellor was praised by firemen for swiftly alerting relatives after he found his mum suffering convulsions caused by a faulty electric lead.

WOLVERHAMPTON-based construction firm Tarmac were awarded an £8.4 million contract by developers Don and Roy Richardson to design and build the next phase of the Waterfront complex at Brierley Hill. The development was expected to create around 500 jobs.

**FAMILIES** were flocking to cinemas across the Midlands to see a film made in 1967. Walt Disney classic *The Jungle Book* was re-released to widespread acclaim and immediately shot to the top of the British film charts.

### 2003...

A GRAND Theatre audience in Wolverhampton had to be sent home after a performance of Andrew Lloyd-Webber's *Cats* was interrupted by a power cut after just five minutes. Theatre bosses brought down the curtain when lighting and sound failed due to an electrical fault in a sub-station.

**CROWDS** of youngsters hoping to make a splash in a paddling pool were left high and dry when they discovered it had been drained. Council chiefs had decided to drain the pool in Tetterhall, Wolverhampton, for cleaning after complaints that it was being used as a toilet.

**BOSSSES** at the Black Country Living Museum launched a hunt to find a traditional baker. They warned visitors could end up going hungry at The Bakers Shop, one of the most popular attractions at the open-air museum.

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## LETTERS

# Thank you for giving your views

I WISH to thank thousands of your readers for taking part in Dudley Council's biggest ever consultation.

We ran the Big Question consultation on council tax for three months up to the end of February and we were truly overwhelmed with the response from more than 4,500 borough residents. Compare that to the 26 responses the previous year!

The consultation results were fascinating and showed us just over 50 per cent of people would be willing to pay more council tax to protect key council services.

It did not however, offer us a

mandate to go to a referendum as in total, around 60 per cent of residents stated they would not be willing to pay more than a two per cent increase in council tax.

This enabled us to make the informed decision to freeze council tax levels for another year, which we hope will help borough residents during these continued difficult economic times.

The move to freeze council tax ensures our residents, who were already paying around £14 per month less than the national average, will continue to pay some of the lowest levels in

the whole country. Council tax bills are now landing on doorsteps and some people have asked me why their bill appears to have gone up slightly if we have frozen council tax levels.

The freeze relates to the council element of the council tax bill. The West Midlands Police precept has risen by three per cent and the West Midlands Fire Service has gone up by 10.4 per cent which does mean the overall bill will go up by around 15p per week for a Band D property.

**COUNCILLOR PETE LOWE**  
Cabinet member for finance  
Dudley Council

## Councillor should go for remark on Maggie

**COUNCILLOR** Steven Frear should resign from Sandwell Council.

This person chose to mark the death of our former Prime Minister, Baroness Thatcher, by posting a sick comment on social media glorifying in the lady's passing.

Whether we agree with Margaret Thatcher's politics or not the fact is she gave many years service to our country and deserves at least the same respect as any other former PM and in many people's opinion a heck of a lot more!

For an elected person to revel in the death of an old lady is repulsive and sickening.

This sorry excuse for a man should resign with immediate effect. The people of Sandwell deserve far better.

**BILL ETHERIDGE**  
Tipton Street  
Sedgley

## LETTERS to the Editor

### POST

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## Change of attitude was on the cards

BEFORE I had my heart attack on February 19, I had no interest at all in cards. Birthday cards were discarded.

Since entering Russells Hall, then New Cross Hospitals, I came to appreciate the views of other people. I had numerous cards and texts, as well as phone calls, all wishing me well. Two cards have pride of place in my collection - two hand drawn ones from two children who live just across the road from my wife and I.

These messages of goodwill are personal to me, I intend to keep them. What I cannot keep to myself are the feelings from me to the medical staff at Russells Hall and New Cross Hospitals. My surgeon was Mr Rehman, and I will be forever grateful to him and his team, and all the nursing staff, for the care that they gave me.

Medication caused me, at times, to be an "awkward patient", and for this I apologise.

I am getting better, and hope in the not too distant future, to be able to say that I can return to my old life-style.

**PETER COLE**  
Chelford Crescent  
Kingswinford

## Thatcher did put our interests first on EU

LIKE all of us, she did some good things, some bad things and despite her unshakable faith in her own infallibility, she made mistakes.

Two things she deserves to be especially remembered for, are the Falklands War and her unbending stance on the European Union.

Mrs Thatcher was the last Prime Minister to justifiably take this country to war. A British dependency had been illegally invaded and, quite rightly a British taskforce was deployed to liberate it.

In contrast, the Iraq invasion was illegal and the Afghan conflict is, at best, unjustified interference in another country's internal affairs.

Mrs Thatcher was the last Prime Minister to put the interests of the British people first in her dealings with the European Union.  
**MR R A SARGEANT**  
Dudley

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## NEWS

# Funeral tribute to Diana is going up for auction

TWO historical pieces of royal memorabilia – including a signed copy of Earl Spencer's funeral tribute to Princess Diana are expected to attract plenty of interest when they go under the hammer this week.

The rare hardbound copy of Earl Spencer's eulogy is one of very few to have been presented by the man himself to guests on the day of the funeral in 1997.

It will be auctioned off in Wolverhampton by Cuttlestones this Friday.

Also on the auction list is a sheet from Queen Victoria's funeral, which dates back to February 2, 1902.

The single, folded sheet provides details of hymns sung during the service and is one of few in circulation today.

Tom Waldron, salesroom manager at Cuttlestones, said both lots would be of big interest to collectors of royal memorabilia.

"We're expecting quite a bit of attention for both," he added. "I've never seen the Diana funeral eulogy come up before – certainly not a signed copy."

"There are a few of these in circulation but they're very limited. The Queen Victoria service sheet is equally as rare although there's been quite a bit on repair gone on with it."

Despite their limited availability the two lots are only expected to fetch around £40 or £50, but Mr Waldron said the firm was erring on the side of caution with its valuations. He said: "It's hard to gauge how much people will bid as there's a certain type of market for royal memorabilia."

## Order to move on jobs

POLICE officers in Stourbridge have been granted a dispersal order to deal with troublemakers. Officers from the Padmore and Stourbridge East policing team have been given the order to tackle anti-social behaviour around the Queensway area of Wollescote.

## National award for nurse



From left, Staff Nurse Hayley Price, Sister Rebecca Turley and Head Nurse Sara Davis with her Nurse of the year award.

A DUDLEY nurse has won a national award for clinical excellence and working to improve patient care.

Sara Davis was presented with the Ward Sister of the Year accolade at this year's Nurse Awards in a ceremony held recently at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

She is lead nurse on the acute medical ward at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital where she has worked for 11 years. Mrs Davis, aged 42, from Kidderminster, was nominated for the award by patients, staff and management at the hospital. She was presented with her trophy by

Chief Nursing Officer of England Jane Cummings and TV presenter Fiona Phillips, who hosted the event. Mrs Davis was accompanied at the ceremony by her husband Nigel and hospital colleagues.

"It was a wonderful night and very humbling to be amongst such wonderful nurses," she said.

"I am very proud to have received it. To receive such wonderful support from patients and staff was very moving. I could not have achieved it without my team."

The annual awards highlight and celebrate excellence in nursing and honours professionals.

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## NEWS

## Hospice shop opens



Shop manager Dawn Spencer, front, with top from left, Lawnswood pub licensee Paul Brewin and hospice chief executive Peter Holliday outside the new charity store. STAFF and volunteers are celebrating the opening of a new shop that will raise vital funds for Stourbridge's Mary Stevens Hospice.

The ribbon was cut on the store in Lawnswood Road, Wordsley, by chief executive Peter Holliday and supporter Paul Brewin from The Lawnswood pub. The shop sells a wide range of clothing, books and bric-a-brac to generate cash towards the hospice in Hagley Road.

Simon Henwood, from the charity, said: "We are very pleased to open this shop and hope it will be a great success." The charity has opened a host of new shops including one in Brierley Hill High Street in January.

# New figures claim crime in Midlands fell by 12pc

**RECORDED crime across the West Midlands has plummeted by almost 12 per cent over the past year despite millions of pounds of budget cuts, latest figures claim.**

**by Shaun Jepson**

The force has seen a fall in the number of burglary, robbery and business crime between the beginning of April last year and the end of last month, compared with the same period in the previous year.

Senior officers said crime levels were now half of what they were 10 years ago.

The annual figures show there were almost 23,000 fewer victims in the region, with 170,721 offences last year compared to the previous 12-month period when 193,542 crimes were committed.

That is despite the force having to make savings of £126 million before 2015.

Police said the reduction marked a drop of 11.7pc. They show there were 2,323 fewer burglaries, 1,803 fewer robbery victims and 6,937 fewer crimes against businesses.

Assistant Chief Constable Sharon Rowe described the crime figures as "promising" but vowed officers

would work to further drive down crime.

She added: "Policing has seen unprecedented changes both nationally and locally, presenting considerable challenges, but we've met those challenges head-on and the latest figures show West Midlands Police continues to perform extremely well."

"We've witnessed some terrible crimes recently in the West Midlands."

"No-one can overstate the devastating impact these incidents have on friends and family, and we appreciate the concern they spark in communities."

"However, it's important these shocking attacks are viewed in context."

"Crimes involving knives are down massively in the last decade and are now mercifully rare."

"It's easy to read about such terrible crimes and believe crime is on the up."

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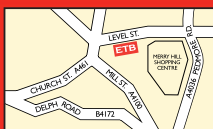
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## MEMORY LANE



Mary Hewitt centre pictured with colleagues in front of pile of Tizer crates



Mary, front right, Gwen Timmins (nee Wilkes) back right, Dora Tilley (nee Vincent) back left



Pearl Goode's mother, Mary Hewitt, who started work at Tizer in 1950



Mary Hewitt front left, and Gwen Timmins, front right, with two colleagues



Dora Tilley centre, and Pearl Goode's uncle, Jack Vincent, right, and a colleague



Workers inside the Tizer factory in Wednesbury

## Fizzing fun for Tizer's one big happy family

IT could be a cold job, working at the Tizer factory in Wednesbury, recalls Pearl Goode.

"To stop the tops from flying off, you had to dip the bottles of Tizer into a bowl of warm water while you put the cap on," she recalls.

"In the cold weather we used to hold our hands down in the bottle for a bit to keep warm."

But while it might have got a bit parky in the winter, 70-year-old Pearl recalls it as one of the happiest times of her life.

"We were like on big happy family," she says.

Indeed family was very much the operative word for Pearl, who went to work at the plant around 1960.

Her mother, her sister, her cousin – around a dozen of her relatives worked at the factory in Friar Park Road, and she says there used to be a real bond.

"It was the same throughout,

by Mark Andrews

there were lots of families who all worked together," says Pearl, who operated the machines on the production lines.

"I think my mum Mary Wilkes started work there about 1950, and my cousin June Newell was also working there when I joined."

"My uncle Jack Vincent, he was a driver, then there was another cousin, Geoffrey Tilly."

Pearl recently discovered these photographs while searching through some family belongings. Thought to have been taken during the 1950s and 1960s, they show a happy, contented workforce.

"They went on a few coach trips, and they went to dances at the Stewponey Hotel, near Kinver, when they wanted a weekend away."

"There was a great mix of people, and we all got on well. There were youngsters like me, but there were also a lot of older people," says

Pearl, who lives in Freeman Road. She isn't in any of the photographs, but her mother, cousin and several other family members are.

Her son Rob Goode is hoping that other people will get in touch.

Tizer was founded in 1924 by Fred Pickup, of Manchester, and was originally known as Pickup's Appetizer.

As its popularity grew, the name was abbreviated to the snappier Tizer, and a number of plants began to spring up across the UK, including the one at Wednesbury.

In 1972 the company was taken over by Scottish soft drinks giant A G Barr. Production ceased at Friar Park years ago, but there is still a sales operation on the site.

Pearl says while she loved her time at the plant, she could not imagine many of today's youngsters would want to work in such an environment.

"It was hard work, and the pay wasn't great, but we had fun."



Cheers – former worker Pearl Goode, aged 70, with her son Rob

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Tony Hardiman goes on to say "We don't know how long the scheme will be available for so it's vitally important that those households that think they may be eligible should call us straight away to avoid disappointment – it's free and could make all the difference between a cold home – or a warm one."

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  - child tax credit with a disability element or
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## Corrie stars meat



Steve Arnold and Andy Whyment with the staff at Black Country Meats in Dudley



Crowds flock into the store to meet the Corrie stars

THEY'RE more accustomed to getting their meat in Weatherfield but two stars of Coronation Street got behind a butcher's counter in Dudley during their latest visit to the region.

Steven Arnold who bowed out as Ashley Peacock in 2010 and Andy Whyment, better known as Kirk Sutherland in the soap, were opening Black Country Butchers in Birdcage Walk, Dudley.

Both favourites, who worked in the Street's butchers, joked they love coming to the region because they get treated like the boy band One Direction.

Arnold, aged 38, whose character was killed off in a tram crash, said: "We've done a few openings around the Midlands and the people are great - we always get a good reception. "I think because we were both likeable characters it makes us quite approachable. I do get the odd 'can you get us a pound of sausages please Ashley?' it's all good fun."

Whyment, aged 32, added: "We've done previous openings in Bilston and Wednesbury."

Arnold, who has just finished filming a show about the comedian Les Dawson, joked: "We're thinking of starting a band called 'Take This'."

Owner of the business Gary Walker, aged 35, from Bushbury, Wolverhampton said: "When you open a business you have to get people's attention. Steven is a friend of mine and I know Andy through him."

## NEWS

# Destruction warning on pet dog in park attack

THE owner of a dog which savagely attacked a woman and her pet in front of her young daughter has been warned that his dog will be destroyed if it happens again.

by Mark Mudie

Julia Tolley was out walking her English setter with her eight-year-old daughter in Haden Hill Park, Cradley Heath, when she was attacked by a Patterdale terrier.

The dog, owned by Kim Fowkes, inflicted 13 puncture wounds on the victim's hand, leaving her daughter traumatised, and also hurt the setter, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

The terrier had burst free of his harness and muzzle after being startled by an explosion, the court was told. Fowkes, aged 52, of Highfield Crescent, Halesowen admitted being the owner of a dog dangerously out of control.

Fowkes, who bought the dog as a companion for his disabled partner, said in a statement to police that the dog behaved like a puppy inside but was a different animal once outside.

Mr Bernard Linnemann, prosecuting, told the court the dog had a history of aggression while outside the home and that it had

He said: "A dog with this history having inadequate equipment to control it is perhaps not excusable."

"I think the important thing here is the ongoing and lasting effects on Mrs Tolley and her daughter, not the fact that another dog was injured."

Miss Samantha Powis, defending, said on the day of the attack, November 17, a firework had gone off near where Fowkes was.

The terrier was frightened, broke free of his harness and muzzle and made off it into the park, despite the defendant trying to catch him, she said.

Fowkes was fined £250 and must pay £500 compensation, £600 costs and a £15 surcharge. The dog will be placed on a contingent destruction order.



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## NEWS

# Salesman is fined over unneeded mobility goods

A SALESMAN who sold mobility equipment to elderly people that they did not need was "over-vigorous", a court was told.

Colin Moore worked on a commission basis for Mobility Healthcare UK Limited, and its sole director Anjum Khan, Wolverhampton Magistrates Court heard.

The pair tried, unsuccessfully, to sell a Halesowen couple, aged 91 and 90, a stairlift for £4,550 instead of the £2,400 Stannah Lift Services Limited quoted for the same product.

The husband was immobile while his wife had arthritis and breast cancer, and poor mobility. Mr Robert Marshall, prosecuting the pair for Wolverhampton City Council trading standards, said they also suffered for being 'trusting'.

Moore, of Pringle Close, West Bromwich, and Khan, of Cubley Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, each pleaded guilty to five charges of misleading commercial practices. Khan also pleaded guilty to five charges on behalf of Mobility Healthcare UK Limited, Kings Road, Tyseley, Birmingham.

Mr Gerard Brady, defending Moore, said: "He was over-vigorous in his actions."

Moore was fined £150 for each of his charges and a £15 victim surcharge and £388 prosecution costs. Khan was ordered to pay £200 on each charge as an individual, and £300 on each charge for the business.

He also ordered Khan as an individual to pay £15 victim surcharge and £388 prosecution costs. As a director of Mobility Healthcare UK Limited, Khan was further ordered to pay a £15 victim surcharge, £388 court costs and £2,350 compensation.

## Beauty spot ramble date

ABEATY spot will host a spring ramble on April 21. Rangers at Severn Valley Country Park in Alesley will lead a six mile. Walkers should meet at the visitor centre off Chapel Lane for a 10am start. It costs £3 for adults, £1.50 for children. To book call 01746 781192.

## Warehouse renovated



Trust financial director Chris Dyché at the Bonded Warehouse

AROUND £14,000 of renovation work has been completed on a former 18th century warehouse.

Hundreds of people use the Bonded Warehouse neighbouring the towpath of the Stourbridge Town Arm Canal for community meetings, exhibitions and as a base for fundraising events. Repairs to exposed outside brickwork became a priority for members of the Stour-

bridge Navigation Trust following harsh winter weather and general wear and tear. Brickwork has been replaced while other bricks were pointed while new wooden window frames fitted during the six-week long project. Trust finance director Chris Dyché, aged 69, said he was very pleased with the renovation which aimed to breathe new life into the Grade II listed building.

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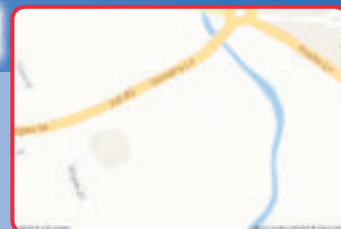


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# More paramedics coming

**DOZENS of extra paramedics and ambulance technicians are being recruited to attend 999 calls in the West Midlands.**

The region's ambulance service is looking to bolster emergency crews to enable more patients to be treated at the scene instead of being taken to hospital.

Bosses are taking on 68 new staff, who are trained up to paramedic level. They will be boosted by a further 80 qualified paramedics who have graduated from university courses along with 24 additional ambulance technicians in September, while 21 of the ambulance service's existing staff will be trained to technician level.

The ambulance service has been working to steadily increase the number of paramedics in its ranks since 2009 when a shortfall in numbers was identified. This led to the bosses having to use private ambulance crews to attend calls to help them meet national targets.

## Technicians

But since then, regular recruitment drives have been held and by April 2014 the service is expected to employ around 1,274 paramedics and about 618 technicians.

Kim Nurse, the service's executive director of workforce and organisational development, said: "We recognise that to provide excellent patient care, it is important to ensure we have the right number of appropriately

qualified staff at all levels within the trust. Our workforce plans are therefore regularly reviewed and aligned to respond to patient demand and services provided by our healthcare partners. This review has enabled us to create new job opportunities and provide training programmes that will ensure staff gain skills up to a registered paramedic qualification.

"Not only will these new staff be welcomed, existing staff who wish to develop their careers and gain new skills have been encouraged to apply for internal training programmes."

The ambulance trust was the first in the country to move all of its paramedic training to universities, which is seen as best practice. Meanwhile, lorry drivers are being trained in life-saving first aid.

# Newly-wed wife found her husband, 38, hanged

A MAN was found hanged in his home on New Year's Day only weeks after he was married, an inquest has heard.

Garry John Bartlett, of Warwell Lane, Halesowen, was discovered by his wife Susan, just hours after they celebrated the start of 2013.

Mrs Bartlett said she had only known her husband, aged 38, since March last year and the two married on December 3.

She told Dudley Coroner's Court: "He was a good lad. He was happy-go-lucky and didn't seem depressed to me."

The inquest heard Mr Bartlett had previously been a supervisor at Biffa in Tipton but had lost his job due to disciplinary matters. Since then he had been unemployed, unable to work due to depression

and anxiety, his wife said. She said the two had seen in the new year before going to bed just after midnight. Later in the morning she had woken up alone and found him with an extension lead tied to the bannister and around his neck as he sat, lifeless, on the stairs.

The inquest heard Mr Bartlett, previously a heroin addict, had drugs in his system when a post mortem was performed. Black Country coroner Robin Balmain said the toxicologist was unable to say what effect these may have had on Mr Bartlett's state of mind leading up to his death. He said: "This case is a puzzle as to why a husband should do this." A narrative verdict was recorded, saying that Mr Bartlett hanged himself without suspicious circumstances.

# Age group exhibition

DUDLEY Age UK's Springboard group is holding a photography and art exhibition throughout this month, including a special activity day being held on April 24 at Stourbridge Library.

Springboard provides a wide range of activities and courses to improve mental and physical well-being.

At the activity taster day, the public can try their hand at some of the sessions and meet the tutors.

The event will begin at 9.30am, with the first session covering photography, massage and reiki.

Later sessions include a watercolour workshop.

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## NEWS

# Traders angry at 'being kept in dark' on works

**FURIOUS** traders in a Dudley village claim they were kept in the dark about the closer of a main road for emergency works.

Workers have sealed off Zoar Street, Lower Gornal to carry out vital repairs after a major water main started to leak.

The closure, between Redhall Road and Abbey Road. A diversion route had been set up along Redhall Road, Himley Road and Bull Street.

Traders in the village said while they understood the closure had to be put in place quickly most had been left in the dark over what was happening.

And they are counting the cost of the road closure with trade plummeting as motorists avoided the village because of the long diversion.

Abbey Road Butchers owner Russ Pearce said he had lost around 25 per cent of his daily trade and expected it to be the same while the closure was in place.

"I know this was an emergency and the road had to be closed quickly but some notification would have been helpful," he said.

"One of the workers just coming down and explaining the situation would have been enough. But there was nothing.

"I was on my own in the shop so could not go up and ask for myself. It really has killed trade in the village.

"It is a very long diversion route with drivers having to turn around at the roundabout on the Himley Road to come back down and turn right into the village."

Dudley Council spokesman Phil Parker said signs were usually put up announcing road closures well in advance but that had not been possible because it was emergency work.

## Planned homes approved

PLANS for the first new homes on the site of a former British Sugar factory have been approved subject to conditions. Bovis Homes want to build an initial 30 homes on the Stourport Road site, Kidderminster while Taylor Wimpey want to build an initial four.

## Big day for knight Mike



**CBeebies character Mike the Knight appears before hundreds of his fans at the Merry Hill Shopping Centre in Brierley Hill**

MORE than 1,000 children and parents flocked to the Merry Hill Centre to meet television hero Mike the Knight.

The cheeky young knight-in-training, who is well-known to CBeebies fans, kept the children transfixed during his five shows at the shopping centre. The free shows were part of a programme by the Brierley Hill shopping centre to keep children amused over the Easter holidays.

Merry Hill's senior marketing manager Kelly Reed said: "We've had a brilliant day and we've had about 1,300 people at the five sessions. Mike the Knight is a hugely popular character."

Mike the Knight is driven by his

passion to help others and, along the way be the best knight he can be.

With his father the King busy exploring faraway lands, Queen Martha has put Mike in charge of helping her protect the Kingdom of Glendragon.

This meant the stage on the upper mall near Oasis was transformed into a story-telling adventure for the children involving castles, dragons, vikings and trolls.

Wall Heath mother Stephanie Craig, aged 28, took her two sons Callum Craig, aged five, and Jayden Kettley, aged 16 weeks to the show.

Mrs Craig, of Blaze Park, said: "They loved it. Callum was jumping up and down with the action and it was wonderful."

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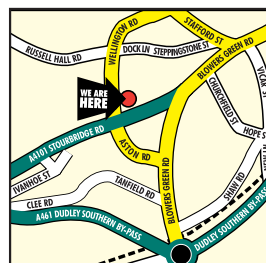
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## NEWS

# Passengers to pay more as Arriva raises its fares

**PASSENGERS** on Arriva buses in the West Midlands are having to pay more for their travel as the company introduces fare rises.

Arriva, which runs a number of bus services around Wolverhampton and South Staffordshire, is putting up selected single fares by 10p while the adult local day saver is to be increased from £4 to £4.20.

The National Express Travelcard supplement fare will jump from 50p to 80p.

However, the firm stressed that most of its fares under the latest price review will remain frozen. Managing director Alex Perry blamed the above-inflation rise on soaring costs.

He said: "No one likes to increase their prices especially at such a difficult time but, as everyone knows from their domestic bills, costs are steadily rising."

"The latest retail price index showed that inflation is currently running at 3.2 per cent. But we've worked hard behind the scenes to ensure that the overall increase in our fares will be kept as low as possible."

The £1.60 and £2 fares will each rise by 10p and the £1.70 fare in Centro areas will increase to £1.80, but the other single fares and the £3 adult return ticket will remain as they are. There are also changes to a limited number of child single fares, generally increasing by 5p or 10p. The company said the Stafford Local Weekly Savers and Midland Network Saver Ticket prices would be unchanged. Arriva runs 21 routes around Wolverhampton through areas including Wednesfield, Essington, Perton, Eting-shall, Shifnal and Bilston.

## St George's Day concert

MUSICIANS from the Dudley's Phoenix West Midlands Brass Band will give a St George's Day concert on April 20 at Cradley Heath Salvation Army, Meredith Street, Cradley Heath. Proceeds from the patriotic concert will be donated to charity. Tickets cost £5 and are available from 01384 350415 or email enquiries@phoenixwmbass.co.uk

## Sons of Rest fight night



Bowling is Ethan Terry, aged seven, with, from left, councillor Donella Russell, club chairman Ian Cooper, committee member Sue Harris, treasurer Graham Harris and vice-chairman John Kay

CAMPAIGNERS fighting to reopen a former Sons of Rest building were bowled over with the success of a fundraising evening

The group have formed a new company called Hasbury Community Association and their efforts to raise £5,000, to save the Halesowen building started with a night of fun. Around 30 people enjoyed a night of bowling, live music from a ukulele band, prize draw, raffle and bingo at the event at Halesowen Members Club, in Hagley Road.

Councillor Donella Russell, who is heading up the scheme with campaigner Ian Cooper, said: "We are raising money to help with the fight

to keep this building open and for the use of the community."

"It was a great night and everyone had a good time which is the main thing."

The building near Alexandra Road and Wall Well, was constructed in 1948 as one of five Sons of Rest sites in the Halesowen area to be used by war veterans.

It was previously home to Huntingtree Seniors Leisure Centre but this was closed in 2011 by Dudley Council.

The group claims to have found about 20 groups which would use the site - but at a cheaper rate than they faced before the centre closed.

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The beautiful country of Vietnam is a mosaic of mist-shrouded mountains, vibrant green forests, a patch-work of rice paddies and pristine white beaches, whilst its villages and cities are custodians of the culture and monuments of a unique 2,000 year old civilisation.

In the past few years Vietnam has opened its doors to the world and much has changed. Today, in one of the world's last communist countries, the motorcycles and western dress of the youth happily co-exist with orange-clad Buddhist monks and political posters from a different era.

On this 16-day tour you will visit Hue, one of the country's most beautiful small towns and the former imperial capital. Here you will be able to see the amazing Citadel and its imperial Forbidden City, as well as the magnificent seven-storied Thien Mu pagoda, a working Buddhist shrine.

Contorted by years of erosion, explore the staggeringly beautiful rock formations of Halong Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage site from on board a converted Chinese junk. Then in Saigon you will be taken on a visit to the Cu Chi tunnels, a complex underground network which provided a base for the Vietcong from which to attack US forces. You will see the tunnels themselves and examples of the many mantraps and stake pits which protected them.

The overwhelming image of Vietnam is that of a country blessed with extraordinary beauty and the friendly Vietnamese always courteous and proud to show of their wonderful country.

In Cambodia you can experience the haunting soft morning light rise over the eerie temples of Angkor. Then later discover the huge fortified 13th century city of Angkor Thom, with its five monumental gates, and 300ft wide moat - its centre containing one of Angkor's most remarkable sites, the temple of Bayon.

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\* varies according to departure dates please go to website for the latest availability and prices



## Water sports centre to mark 50th anniversary

A WATER sports centre near a Dudley beauty spot is preparing to celebrate its 50th anniversary, with plans to revamp its site to encourage new members.

More than 140 people regularly visit Dudley Water Sports Centre on the Lodge Farm Reservoir, next to Saltwells Nature Reserve, each week.

Water skiing, sailing and diving are among the activities that take place on the open water, off Highbridge Road, which overlooks Brierley Hill and the Merry Hill shopping centre.

Dudley Sailing Club and Dudley Water Ski Club are both based at the Netherton centre alongside Dudley Dolphin and Nautilus Diving clubs.

Organisers now want to encourage more clubs to take advantage of the facilities.

Around £50,000 in grants from funding body Inspired Facilities is helping to pave the way for the scheme, with work due to start in the next week.

The main changing rooms building will be completely overhauled.

The centre's sports development officer, Karen Patchett, today said the building, which dates back five decades, was in need of refurbishment.

"We hope this work will lead to more people coming down and seeing what we do and trying out the sports," she said.

## Home sales are highest

**THE West Midlands remains the UK's housing market hotspot, with more homes sold this year than anywhere else – including London.**

The number of houses sold remained at a high level for the third month in a row in March as confidence continued to increase in the market.

Chartered surveyors sold 22 homes on average over the three months, level with February and up slightly on January. The national average was 17 sold in March.

But pricing was another matter, indicating that sellers are taking a hit to find buyers. The Royal Institu-

tion of Chartered Surveyors, which published the findings, said 21 per cent of surveyors nationwide reported an increase in prices – the highest proportion recorded since June 2010.

Black Country estate agency Paul Dubberley & Co says activity levels are definitely picking up.

### Viewings

The firm, which has offices in Wednesbury, West Bromwich, Great Bridge, Willenhall, Walsall and Bilston, said viewings had risen 32 per cent on the same period last year, with sales ahead eight per cent.

Managing partner Lee Morton said: "Pent-up demand has been

building for quite a while – at some point something had to give."

Mr Morton said the trend was probably also a reflection of mortgages becoming more available, continued low interest rates, and lenders being more flexible.

He added: "I think there is also a feeling that house prices are at the cheapest they are going to go and the next move is likely to be up."

"People are deciding they had better go for it now or risk missing out," he added.

The number of homes on the market in the West Midlands has remained stable, meaning little fresh stock coming on to the market to attract buyers.

## Advice on web pages

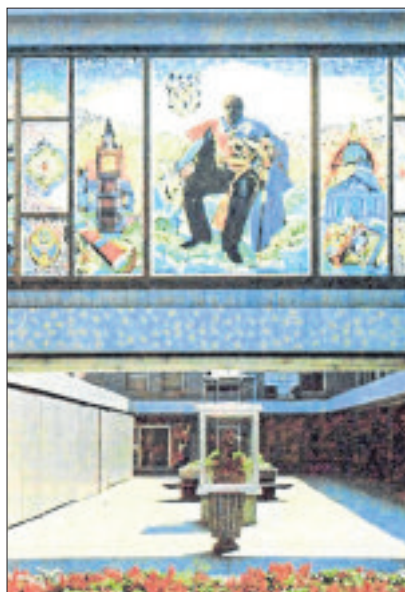
ADVICE on issues affecting teenagers in Dudley is available following the launch of new webpages.

Dudley Safe & Sound is offering guidance on personal safety, bullying and internet safety, drugs and alcohol, violence and abuse.

The community safety partnership group has created new pages on its website where there are also links to videos which highlight the dangers of gangs and teenage dating abuse.

The site includes sections with advice to parents. Visit [www.dudleysafeand-sound.org/young-peoples-pages/](http://www.dudleysafeand-sound.org/young-peoples-pages/).

## Mystery of missing glass Churchill panels



The original glass panels with Churchill in the centre

ONLY fragments of a famous glass memorial to Winston Churchill are believed to still exist – with the main panel depicting the wartime leader among those lost, it has been revealed.

The large mosaic was the centrepiece of Dudley's Churchill Precinct for more than 20 years. It was taken down in 1991 after repeated vandal attacks and weather damage took their toll. Interest in the piece was renewed last month when Dudley North MP Ian Austin launched a campaign to get the work restored in time for the 50th anniversary of Churchill's death in 2015.

But Dudley Council, which has stored the work since it was taken down, have revealed only eight of the original 17 stained-glass panels are held in storage.

And the main panel, which featured a representation of Mr Churchill, are among those which are not held in the archive. The authority, which does not own the mosaic, is contacting Churchill Precinct owners London and Cambridge Properties to see if they have any more of the mosaic in storage.

Contractors who removed the piece 20 years ago are also being consulted to confirm what happened to the other pieces. It is thought some simply did not survive the damage suffered back then. Mr Austin said he had asked the council for an inventory of which pieces remain.

Talks with glass experts will then be held to decide what to do next – with one possibility being to recreate the missing panels. Mr Austin said: "There is still a lot of work to be done and I am waiting to hear from the council about the pieces we have."

## Local canals are the theme for exhibition

AN EXHIBITION featuring the work of four acclaimed artists will be staged at a Dudley attraction.

All four are members of the Royal Birmingham Society of Artists and their work will be displayed at Wordsley's Red House Glass Cone until May 26.

The exhibition, called The Black Country Seen, will feature paintings, ceramic sculptures, litho prints and experimental prints.

The artists – Brian Fletcher, Paul Hipkiss, Tom Millard and Peter Shread – are all from Stourbridge and have used the town's canals as a starting point for their pieces. The Red House Glass Cone itself is featured in one of the litho prints.

Councillor Tracy Wood, said it would be a beautiful exhibition. "The four artists have taken the same theme of our Black Country canals and produced a whole range of varied work," she said.



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## CLUB NEWS

# Silence in memory of Wendy MP gives lowdown on being a politician

## K'FORD LADIES SOCIAL CIRCLE

CHAIRMAN Audrey Phipps welcomed everyone including the speaker Pete Moodie to the AGM on March 26

She announced the sad news that a member, Wendy Parfitt, had died and several members had attended her funeral. A minute's silence was held in her memory.

Minutes of the 2012 AGM meeting were read and approved. Committee members were elected en bloc. Secretary Pam Ingman and treasurer Sheila Evans gave their annual reports.

In her chairman's report, Audrey thanked everyone for their loyalty and hard work including the local newspapers for printing monthly reports. Having expressed what an enjoyable year the club had had, she dropped the bombshell that after 30 plus years she was standing down as chairman, to be replaced by Sheila Evans. She was presented with a garden planter containing delightful plants.

A trip to Morton-in-the-Marsh and Bourton-on-the-Water is being organised for June 11. Chris Groves will organise a luncheon later in the year.

Mr Moodie gave a fascinating talk about the history and work at the Beacon Centre for the Blind, near Wolverhampton. Iris Hemfrey gave the vote of thanks.

Sheila Evans and Linda Taylor won the raffle.



Gavin Williamson MP was guest speaker

## WOMBOURNE WI

SPEAKER for the evening was Gavin Williamson, MP for South Staffordshire. He spoke about the role of an MP and how he became one.

At the end of the lower sixth in a school in Scarborough, pupils were asked to decide on possible occupations so that arrangements could be made for students to shadow someone in that job. Gavin chose to shadow an MP and was surprised and pleased when John Sykes, MP for Scarborough and Whitby, agreed that Gavin could accompany him.

They attended surgeries, met with local business people, visited factories and visited local constituents who had particular problems. After a very busy, informative and enjoyable three days, Gavin decided that this was the job for him.

During his time at university he continued with his interest in politics. While working at the Ainsley pottery, helping to steer them through difficult times, he heard that Sir Patrick Cormack was retiring and after discussion with his wife, he decided to apply to be a candidate.

Mr Williamson's job as an MP is to represent South Staffordshire at Westminster and he has a constituency of around 89,000. It was lively, informative, interesting and light hearted talk.

After tea and cake the business of the evening was dealt with and the Easter bonnets judged. First was Jean Tasker. Joint second were Pat Elwell and Pat Clarke.

# 113 attend annual dinner

## SOUTH STAFFS FEDERATION OF TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILDS

ON March 28, it was the South Staffordshire Federation's annual dinner at the Terrace Restaurant, Brownhills.

There were 113 members in attendance and they were

well entertained by speaker David Howe who told funny stories and jokes.

The group would like to thank the management and staff for all their hard work.

**Are you a member of a local voluntary group?**

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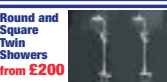
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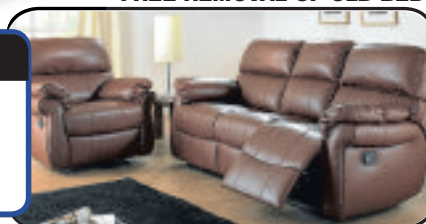
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## NEWS

## Depressed postman kept 100s of items

A POSTMAN stored hundreds of items of post, including some in mail sacks in the garage at his ex-girlfriend's home, a court heard.

Other items of mail were kept in a downstairs cloakroom in the house in Brierley Hill, some of which dated back to 2008.

Postman Jamie Paterson was suspended from work at the Brierley Hill office after Royal Mail investigators were tipped off.

Post was also discovered at Paterson's home in Tipton. Judge Amjad Nawaz, sitting at Wolverhampton Crown Court, heard Paterson committed a "serious breach of trust" by failing to deliver the mail.

Paterson, aged 38, of Sedgley Road East, Tipton, pleaded guilty at an earlier hearing to charges of delaying post and theft.

Paterson was sentenced to six months jail, suspended for 15 months to run concurrent on the charges. He will also be subject to supervision by the probation service and must do 80 hours unpaid work.

Mr John Dove, prosecuting on behalf of Royal Mail, said Paterson kept hold 486 addressed letters and 161 door-to-door leaflets.

Miss Sarah Allen, defending, said Paterson had been diagnosed with depression in 2005. She said: "He knows that it was a serious breach of trust."

## 90pc of parents in borough given first choice of school

THOUSANDS of Dudley parents have been given good news – with nine out of 10 being told their children can go to their first choice of primary school.

A total of 3,287 children (89.9 per cent) will get into their favourite school, which is nearly five per cent better than last year. Nearly 97 per cent of pupils will be able to go to one of their five preferred schools. Councillor Tim Crumpton, said: "This year's admission figures are pleasing for the authority as they have shown an improvement on last year."

"We are pleased that around nine in ten have received their first preference school and that nearly 97 per cent have received a place at a preferred school. Unfortunately, in these processes there will always be some disappointment for some families, particularly where parents have selected popular schools some distance from their home address, as school places are allocated in strict accordance with the admission arrangements for individual schools and in line with the statutory admission code."

"For those small numbers of people, we will obviously continue to work with them to do what we can and find the best possible solution."

As well as those children getting into their first choice in Dudley, a further 177 (4.8 per cent) will hear they can go to their second favourite.

A class called Canal Art for Beginners: Roses and Castles will take place on May 11 while Canal Craft will be on June 22. They will be led by Julie Tonkin, a professional narrow boat decorator and canal boat owner who has been teaching roses and castles painting for many years. She said: "I took up canal art 40 years ago as a hobby, painting narrow boats and traditional items of canal ware. Places need to be booked and there is a fee for the art courses. Call 0121 520 8054."

## Courses on canal craft at museum

A SECOND season of canal art and craft courses has been launched by the Black Country Living Museum.

The attraction wants to teach visitors about waterways traditions.

A class called Canal Art for Beginners: Roses and Castles will take place on May 11 while Canal Craft will be on June 22.

They will be led by Julie Tonkin, a professional narrow boat decorator and canal boat owner who has been teaching roses and castles painting for many years.

She said: "I took up canal art 40 years ago as a hobby, painting narrow boats and traditional items of canal ware. Places need to be booked and there is a fee for the art courses. Call 0121 520 8054."



Actors Emma Francis, Mark Moran, left and Richard Lisseter are performing the Mayhem Theatre Group's latest production, Alan Ayckbourn's comedy, Bedroom Farce

## Antics in bedroom are a farce

ACTORS from Halesowen will be indulging in more than a little pillow talk as they put on their latest comedy performance.

Mayhem Theatre Group, which recently won an award at Worcester theatre festival, is performing a classic comedy Bedroom Farce from writer Alan Ayckbourn.

The story set in the bedrooms of three couples, follows the arguments and pitfalls of everyday life and relationships.

The show at the Hardwicke Theatre at Thorns Community College, off Stockwell Avenue, Quarry Bank runs until Saturday with shows starting at 7.30pm.

Tickets costing £5 are available on the evening or can be bought in advance by calling Spex Manix on 0121 550 7977 or Richard Lisseter on 0121 559 6599

## NEWS in brief

## Roads closed by blaze in oil drum

A BLAZE was sparked in a large metal oil drum being used as a waste bin at a garage in Halesowen.

The fire led to nearby roads being closed as a precaution.

Fire crews were called to Kwik-Fit, Long Lane, at 11.15am on Tuesday. The blaze affected a tyre compressor at the premises and also spread to the roof at the rear of the building.

Roads around the building were closed off by police as a precaution, including a section of Malt Mill Lane and the Blackhead end of Long Lane.

## Attacker is told he faces prison

A MAN, who took part in an attack which left a father-of-three seriously injured, has been warned he faces going to jail.

Samuel Pagett, aged 25, pleaded guilty to inflicting grievous bodily harm on Paul Currie who was walking home from The Woodside Inn, Dudley, on January 13. Mr Currie is still recovering from the assault in Newland Grove, Holly Hall, Dudley.

Pagett was given conditional bail until May 5.

## Farm building fire

A BLAZE tore through a farm outbuilding off Quarry Lane near Halesowen at about 7.30pm on Monday. Fire crews from Cradley Heath, Kidderminster and Woodgate Valley were among those to tackle it.

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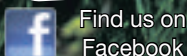
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## CD REVIEWS

# Whipping up a jamboree



Blackbeard's Tea Party

### Blackbeard's Tea Party Whip Jamboree

IT was roughly three years ago when I first encountered Blackbeard's Tea Party in the basement of a cinema in York, they were supporting a great Yorkshire duo called the Hut People and, even though they were a little depleted on numbers they still managed to put on a great show.

Their latest album Whip Jamboree, out now and bears a lot of similarity to Bellowhead in style with its juggling mix of eclectic sounds and songs although with their use of electric they also give the feel of Fairport Convention.

The album kicks off full of energy with The Valiant Turpin whacking you with a stomping, rasping fiddle sound from Laura Barber before the

shanty-style voices move in and with the cadence they create you can almost feel the ropes being hauled up over the side.

There is no rest either with the next track as the squeezebox of Stuart Giddens joins the fiddle to illustrate that the Devil's In The Kitchen.

Without doubt the most fun track on the album is Rackabell which wonderfully celebrates everything to do with pork and the band give it a great stomping sound that defies you to not to tap along.

This is such a grown up album with wonderful twists, turns and dark themes and a mixture of sounds, it's also a lesson to anyone who thinks folk is dull. Visit [www.blackbeard-steaparty.com](http://www.blackbeard-steaparty.com).

Danny Farragher

## Thoughtful sounds from a Dandelion Great lake of songs show real emotions

### Becky Mills, Dandelion

IT'S always a treat when an album grabs your attention with the opening bars of the first track. Such is the case on Becky Mills' Dandelion and Amy Sharpe.



Becky Mills

If the rockabilly-style sound doesn't set your toes tapping and your fingers clicking within the blink of an eye then perhaps you shouldn't be listening to this.

The tracks do slow down from this though and you get the richness of Mills' voice, the creamy and deep sounds on I Saw the Sun Today and Pretty Young Things which has more than a touch of Kate Rusby about it, but is distinctive enough not to be confusing. The soft unblemished tones of her voice are almost contradictory to the content of some of her songs. Mills has the perfect voice for folk, it fits in beautifully with her acoustic guitar skills and yet is distinctive enough not to be lost in the milieu of all the other female voices on the circuit. For a first album Dandelion exudes maturity in terms of the song-writing and confidence in the singing.

Overall this is a really thoughtful and endearing album. Visit [www.beckymills.co.uk](http://www.beckymills.co.uk) or [www.facebook.com/beckymillsdandelion](http://www.facebook.com/beckymillsdandelion).

DF

### John Smith, Great Lakes

WHETHER you have heard John Smith a few times or never before, when you do put his music on you feel there is something eminently well-bedded and mature about his style and voice which gives you a sense of having been listening to him for many years.

Smith's rich and mellow tones blend with his guitar playing on his new album, Great Lakes, in such a way that it can calm the most restless of souls. This Devon troubadour, who has already garnered many accolades, has rubbed shoulders with some of the best folk artists on the scene and deserves his place alongside them.

His latest offering is a real treat for anyone who likes good music folk or otherwise. Smith's liquid style of guitar and slide guitar playing is used wonderfully and from the first track There Is A Stone with its gloriously illustrative lyrics you know this is an album you want to listen to over and over again. Without doubt one of the best tracks is She Is My Escape, it has the feel of Simon & Garfunkel but the ballad has such an intensity of feeling which just stops you in your tracks and makes you say "Who is this?"

Great Lakes is out now and for more information visit [www.johnsmithjohnsmith.com](http://www.johnsmithjohnsmith.com).

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# What's On! Halesowen

## Bringing Brent back to the stage

The stage version of the award-winning *The Office* is coming to Dudley where you can again enjoy the character made famous by Ricky Gervais, David Brent. The pompous but hilarious regional boss of a Slough paper merchants.

All the old favourites are included with Gareth, the jobsworth, Tim and receptionist Dawn.

The show is being staged at Netherton Arts Centre from Wednesday May 8 to Saturday May 11.

The shows start at 7.30pm and tickets are £7.00 with concessions £6.00.

## Serving up a slice of Pi in the town

Stourbridge Town Hall will be screening the critically acclaimed film *The Life Of Pi*.

The story is of a young man who survives a disaster at sea and is hurtled into an epic journey of adventure and discovery.

While cast away, he forms an unexpected connection with another survivor - a fearsome Bengal tiger.

The screening will be on Monday May 13 at 1.30pm.

Tickets are £3.00 and the film runs 2hrs 30mins, cert PG.

## Northern nights

The vinyl will be spinning again at Dudley Town Hall as it recreates the heyday of Northern soul on Saturday May 11 and October 26. Tickets are £7 and the show starts 8pm.

# Pasha and Katya are hot stuff on the dancefloor

**"MY God, it's cold," says Pasha Kovalev. And when a man who was born and bred in icy Siberia is feeling the chill, you know it must be brass monkeys out there.**

The Strictly Come Dancing star is sheltering from the unseasonably bracing winds to speak about his new touring dance show which he's put together with another professional from the TV series, Katya Virshilas.

It's a monster tour which started last month, and runs through to the middle of June, taking in more than 60 venues. On May 11 it calls at the Cannock Prince of Wales Theatre.

Pasha has become a firm favourite with audiences on the BBC show since joining Strictly's cast in 2011.

## Busy

In that first year, he took Waterloo Road star Chelsea Healey all the way to the final - his Shrek costume was one of the most talked about in the series - and he repeated the feat in the most recent series with Girls Aloud singer Kimberley Walsh. He recently danced with Dani Harmer on the Strictly live tour.

"It's been really, really busy. But the success of Strictly over the past few years has shown just how much British audiences

by Carl Jones

appreciate this form of art, and I'm loving it," says Pasha. "It was straight from the end of the Strictly tour to training for this one."

"On this tour, it is really good to get the chance to see people up close who have watched us on TV, and get the chance to interact with them, and have a bit of fun."

So, what can audiences expect from this latest show? "Lots of beautiful Latin and ballroom dancing," says Pasha. "But not just that, we will also be inviting a local dance school onto the stage each night, giving the audience a chance to test their own Strictly skills, and having a question and answer session. It's always interesting to hear the sort of things that people want to know!"

Tickets cost £20. Call 01543 578762.



Grab your partner — Katya Virshilas and Pasha Kovalev get to grips as they prepare for their latest tour

## Extraordinary shows by Paralympics pair

THE Arena Theatre in Wolverhampton will host shows featuring two of the stars of the London 2012 Paralympic Opening Ceremony.

Tomorrow evening (Friday) Helen Parlor, who worked as the assistant choreographer for the ceremony, brings her company Parlor Dance to the Wulfruna Street venue. At the Paralympics Helen choreographed thousands of volunteers to create a full length stadium show.

Her company Parlor Dance will perform Close Distance, an acrobatic and thought-provoking show that explores our relationships with our neighbours.

Then on Thursday, May 23, double amputee dancer David Toole, who starred in the ceremony, will perform at the Arena Theatre in a dance duet called Extraordinary.

## Hands

Toole provided one of the highlights of the opening ceremony, dancing on his hands and soaring above the stadium to perform an aerial dance in a wire harness.

In the duet Extraordinary David Toole and his partner go on a journey of self-discovery in a funny, moving and poignant production, which explores challenges and misconceptions surrounding being a disabled dancer.

Close Distance takes place on at 8pm and Extraordinary takes place at 7.30pm. Tickets for both shows cost £9 full price and £7 concessions.

Tickets can be purchased online at the website [www.arenatheatre.info](http://www.arenatheatre.info), in person at the Arena Theatre box office on Wulfruna Street, or by calling 01902 321321.

## Suggs tells of his life of Madness

I'VE just turned 50, the kids have left home, and my cat just died so says Madness frontman in Suggs: My Life Story.

With a mixture of drama, stand up and music Suggs takes you from his childhood in Soho to his first appearance on Top of the Pops at Dudley Town Hall.

The death of Suggs' cat triggers a quest to discover the father he never knew. Suggs My Life Story in Words and Music will be at the town hall this Friday (19) at 7.30pm. Tickets are £24.50.

## Dickens of a show from an ancestor

The world of Charles Dickens will be brought to Dudley on Friday April 26 at 7.30pm.

Gerald Dickens is the great-great-grandson of the famous author and will do a one-man show of Great Expectations, playing every character.

The performance will be at Netherton Arts Centre and has already been praised following other performances around the world. Tickets are £11 for adults and £7 for children and those aged over 60.

## Best of the 50s

MEMORIES Are Made of Hits makes a welcome return to Dudley Town Hall with a production of all that was best from the 50s & early 60s. The show is on May 14 at 2pm with tickets £11.00.

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# What's On!

## SATURDAY'S TV 20.04.13

Listings supplied by Press Association

### CHOICE



Michael Crawford

#### The Many Faces of Michael Crawford BBC2, 8.30pm

Michael Crawford will always be known, first and foremost, as bumbling Frank Spencer in 1970s sitcom *Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em*. In the years that followed, some audience members found it difficult to take Crawford serious as any other character, which perhaps explains why he has largely steered clear of films and TV since. Instead, he's become a much-sought-after West End and Broadway star thanks to the likes of *Barnum* and *The Phantom of the Opera*. This documentary takes a look back at Crawford's remarkable life and career.

### BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Nigel Slater's Simple Suppers. (R) **12.00** BBC News: Regional News. Weather. **12.15** Football Focus. **1.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. **2.15** Live Challenge Cup Rugby League. **4.30** Final Score. **5.10** Formula 1: Bahrain Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights. **6.25** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **6.45** **Doctor Who**. Clara and the Doctor arrive at a haunted mansion on a desolate moor, where a gifted psychic and a professor are searching for a tortured spirit. **7.30** **The National Lottery: Who Dares Wins**. Nick Knowles hosts the game show in which two pairs of strangers team up, each battling to outdo the other by listing as much as they know about a given subject. **8.20** **The Voice UK**. The fourth round of the chair-spinning singing contest, with coaches Tom Jones, Jessie J, Will.I.am and Danny O'Donoghue aims to bolster their teams. **9.20** **Casualty**. Jeff is distressed when his father and sister are involved in a car accident. **10.10** BBC News: Weather. **10.30** **Match of the Day**. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League fixtures, including Sunderland v Everton at the Stadium of Light and Queens Park Rangers v Stoke City at Loftus Road, National Lottery Update. **12.00** The Football League Show. **1.20** Film: Black Eagle. (1988) **2.55** Weatherview. **3.00** BBC News.

### BBC2

**6.00** This Is BBC Two. **6.45** Film: On the Beat. (1962) **8.30** Film: A Stitch in Time. (1963) A butcher's bumbling assistant tries to cheer up an orphan while visiting his ailing boss in hospital. Slapstick comedy, starring Norman Wisdom. **10.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. **12.25** EastEnders. (R) **2.15** Live Snooker: The World Championship. **5.30** The Great British Sewing Bee. (R) **6.30** **Flog It!** Paul Martin and the experts examine Liverpool's rich musical heritage. (R) **7.00** **Live Snooker: The World Championship**. Further coverage of the opening day at the Crucible Theatre. **8.00** **Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em**. Betty finally goes into labour. (R) **8.30** **The Many Faces of Michael Crawford**. A profile of the actor and singer best known for his portrayal of Frank Spencer in *Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em* and playing the title role in the first run of *The Phantom of the Opera*. **9.30** **QI XL**. An extended edition of the quiz with a difference, with host Stephen Fry asking Sandi Toksvig, Al Murray, Dara O Briain and Alan Davies questions on the topic of the Inland Revenue. (R) **10.15** **America in Primetime**. New series. Alan Yentob explores the social history of the US through its most popular TV shows. **11.15** **Richard Briers: A Tribute**. Documentary celebrating the life of the actor. (R) **12.15** Snooker: The World Championship. **1.05** Snooker: World Championships Extra. **3.05** This Is BBC Two.

### ITV

**6.00** CITV: Jungle Junction. **6.15** Jungle Junction. **6.25** The Hive. (R) **6.35** The Hive. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **6.55** Dino Dan. (R) **7.05** Animals. (R) **7.15** Animals. (R) **7.25** Almost Naked Animals. (R) **7.35** Ultimate Spider-Man. **8.00** Jessie. **8.25** TV News. **8.30** Saturday Farm. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **10.20** My Tasty Travels with Lynda Bellingham. (R) **11.20** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **12.20** TV News: Weather. **12.30** Midsomer Murders. (R) **2.25** The Chase. (R) **3.30** Film: Kindergarten Cop. (1990) **5.30** Regional Programme: Weather. **5.45** ITV News: Weather. **6.00** **New You've Been Framed!** Forever. Comedian Harry Hill narrates a selection of surreal camcorder calamities and viewers' mobile phone footage. **7.00** **Britain's Got Talent**. Ant and Dec present the second audition show, with another line-up of acts eager to win a slot at this year's Royal Variety Performance. **8.30** **The Cube**. A physiotherapist and a secondary school teacher try to complete a series of increasingly difficult tasks, hoping to win a jackpot of £250,000. **9.30** **The Jonathan Ross Show**. The host welcomes Steve Coogan, the man behind Alan Partridge, to talk about his latest projects. Actress Saoirse Ronan also drops by and music superstar Will.i.am performs live. **10.30** TV News: Weather. **10.45** Film:  **Parenthood**. (1989) Comedy drama, starring Steve Martin. **11.00** Jackpot247. **3.00** Ladette to Lady. Australia. (R) **3.30** ITV Nightscreen.

### CHANNEL 4

**6.15** The Grid. **6.40** World Superbikes. **7.05** Brighton Marathon. **7.55** The Morning Line. **9.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.00** Frasier. (R) **10.30** Frasier. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.35** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Simpsons. (R) **12.35** Secret Millionaire Ireland. **1.40** Channel 4 Racing. **4.15** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.50** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.20** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.55** Come Dine with Me. (R) **6.25** **Come Dine with Me**. Heidi Kelloway hosts the final dinner party in Oxford. (R) **6.55** **Channel 4 News**. **7.20** **Grand Designs**. Kevin McCloud meets a couple transforming 5,000sq ft of derelict basement in west London - but without proper architects' drawings, confusion kicks in almost from the start. Postponed from April 13. (R) **8.15** **Walking Through History**. Tony Robinson goes on a four-day trek through the Highlands, examining the story of the early 1700s Jacobite uprisings along the way. Last in the series. **9.20** Film: **The Twilight Saga: New Moon**. (2009) Romantic fantasy sequel, starring Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson. **11.45** **Darren Brown Investigates: The Ghost Hunter**. The illusionist explores the world of Lou Gentile. Last in the series. (R) **12.50** Film: **Double Jeopardy**. (1999) Thriller, starring Ashley Judd. **2.35** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.35** Deal or No Deal. (R) **5.30** Countdown. (R)

### CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake! **10.00** Power Rangers: Super Samurai. (R) **10.35** Batman: The Brave and the Bold. **11.00** Inside Hollywood. **11.05** The Removal Men. (R) **12.05** Nature Shock: The Backlist Shark Mystery. (R) **1.05** Robson's Extreme Fishing Challenge. (R) **2.05** Film: **Cheaper By the Dozen**. (2003) Family comedy remake, starring Steve Martin. **4.00** Film: **Apache**. (1954) Western, starring Burt Lancaster. **5.45** 5 News: Weekend. **5.50** Film: Cahill, US Marshal. (1973) Western, starring John Wayne and George Kennedy. **7.40** Film: **Rocky IV**. (1985) The Italian Stallion steps into the ring against a seemingly invincible Russian boxer who caused the death of his friend. Drama, starring Sylvester Stallone and Dolph Lundgren. **9.30** **International Boxing**. Tyson Fury v Steve Cunningham. Live coverage of the heavyweight bout from the Theatre at Madison Square Garden in New York, USA. **11.00** **Law & Order: Special Victims Unit**. Benson and Stabler have to tread carefully when they investigate the deaths of a wealthy couple and find themselves playing a game of politics and double bluff. **11.55** **Inside Hollywood**. Magazine show, with location reports and showbusiness news from behind the scenes in Tinseltown. **12.05** SuperCaseo. **3.50** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.40** County Secrets. (R) **4.55** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.05** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.15** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.25** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.35** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

### DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00** Merlin. **8.30** Top Gear. **9.30** Film: Tropic Thunder (2008) **11.10** Family Guy. **11.55** American Dad!  
**BBC Four**  
**7.00** South Pacific. **8.00** The Golden Age of Steam Railways. **9.00** Arne Dahl: Bad Blood - Part One. **10.30** Young Guns Go for It. **11.30** Top of the Pops: 1978  
**ITV2**  
**3.40** Funnist Ever You've Been Framed! **4.45** Film: Curly Sue (1991) **6.40** Film: Kangaroo Jack (2003) **8.30** Britain's Got More Talent **9.30** Best of You've Been Framed! **10.30** Celebrity Juice **11.20** Plebs **11.50** Britain's Got Talent  
**ITV3**  
**3.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot. **4.00** A Touch of Frost. **6.00** Agatha Christie's Marple. **8.00** Doc Martin. **9.00** Lewis. **11.00** A Touch of Frost  
**ITV4**  
**11.00** Live Indian Premier League Cricket: Kolkata Knight Riders v Chennai Super Kings and Royal Challengers Bangalore v Rajasthan Royals. **8.00** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **9.00** River Monsters. **10.00** Film: Land of the Dead (2005) **11.55** From Ronaldo to Ronaldo  
**E4**  
**5.30** The Mindy Project. **6.00** The Big Bang Theory. **7.00** Youngers. **7.30** How I Met Your Mother. **9.00** Film: Rush Hour 3 (2007) **10.50** The Big Bang Theory. **11.50** The Cleveland Show  
**Film4**  
**2.45** Zulu (1964) **5.30** My Super Ex-Girlfriend (2006) **7.20** The Man (2005) **9.00** Planes, Trains and Automobiles. (1987) Comedy, starring Steve Martin, John Candy and Michael McKean. **10.45** Scary Movie (2000)

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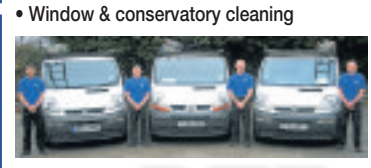
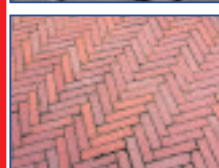
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## What's On!

## SUNDAY'S TV 21.04.13

Listings supplied by Press Association

## CHOICE



Shaun Evans

Endeavour  
ITV, 8pm

Fans of Colin Dexter's novels and John Thaw's series will be delighted by a story that manages to encompass some of the themes depicted in one of older Morse's best stories, Masonic Mysteries. Initially, the killer featured here seems to be your typical deranged lunatic, the kind who murder indiscriminately – until a passion for opera, displayed in the way he elaborately stages his crimes – is revealed. Morse's musical knowledge may enable him to unlock the case's puzzling nature, which involves cryptic clues and an ever-growing body count.

## BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **7.00** Match of the Day. (R) **8.30** London Marathon. **2.00** Sunday Politics: Weather for the Week Ahead. **3.20** Points of View. **3.35** Lifetime. **3.45** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.15** Songs of Praise. **5.00** Formula 1: Bahrain Grand Prix Highlights. (R) **6.35** BBC News: Regional News; Weather.

**7.00** **Countryside.** The team heads to Calderdale in West Yorkshire, before visiting the village of Haworth – where the Bronte family lived – and taking in the landscapes that inspired poet Ted Hughes.

**8.00** **Antiques Roadshow.** Fiona Bruce and the experts visit Castle Coole, near Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh, where items include a modern painting of an Irish landscape and a collection of compacts. Red button viewers can play along by guessing the valuations.

**9.00** **The Village.** The villagers gather for their traditional annual wheelbarrow race – unaware it coincides with the first day of the Battle of the Somme. John steals medicine when Mary falls ill.

**10.00** BBC News: Regional News; Weather.

**10.25** **Match of the Day 2.** Including highlights of Tottenham Hotspur v Manchester City.

**11.25** **Regional Programme.**

**11.55** **Film: The Getaway.** (1994) A criminal couple are persuaded to take part in a robbery, but are forced to work with a treacherous former partner in crime. Thriller remake, with Alec Baldwin and Kim Basinger.

**1.45** Weatherview. **1.50** BBC News.

## BBC2

**6.00** This Is BBC Two. **6.20** **Film:** The Outlaw. (1943) **8.15** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.45** The A to Z of TV Gardening. **9.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** Paul Hollywood's Bread. (R) **12.00** **Film:** The World's Most Beautiful Places. (R) **1.00** **Gymnastics:** European Championships. **2.30** **Live Snooker:** The World Championship.

**6.00** **Coast.** The presenters seek out the ideal locations to enjoy their personal passions, with Nick Crane attempting a mountaineering challenge on the Isle of Skye. (R)

**7.00** **London Marathon Highlights.** Sonali Shah presents action from one of the world's most prestigious road races, as elite athletes and fun-runners negotiated the 26.2-mile course.

**8.00** **Bill Bailey's Jungle Hero.** The comedian follows in the footsteps of Victorian naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace.

**9.00** **Toughest Place to Be a Bin Man – The Return.** London dustman Wilbur Ramirez heads back to Jakarta, Indonesia.

**10.00** **Mock the Week Looks Back at Travel.** Another themed selection from the show's archives.

**10.30** **It's Kevin.** Including music by Crab Marley.

**11.00** **Snooker: The World Championship.** Highlights of the second day's play in Sheffield.

**11.50** **Snooker: World Championships Extra.**

**1.50** Sign Zone: Holy City. (R) **2.50** This Is BBC Two.

## ITV

**6.00** **CITV:** Jungle Junction. **6.15** Jungle Junction. **6.25** The Hive. (R) **6.35** The Hive. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **6.55** Dino Dan. **7.05** Canimals. (R) **7.15** Canimals. (R) **7.20** Almost Naked Animals. (R) **7.30** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **8.00** Sonny with a Chance. **8.25** **ITV News.** **8.30** Country House Sunday. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **10.20** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **11.20** **ITV News:** Weather. **11.25** **Film:** Columbo: Mind Over Mayhem. (1974) **12.55** You've Been Framed! (R) **1.25** Britain's Got Talent. (R) **2.55** Food Glorious Food. (R) **3.55** **Film:** Jurassic Park. (1993)

**6.15** **Regional Programme:** Weather.

**6.30** **ITV News:** Weather.

**6.45** **Catchphrase.** Stephen Mulhern hosts the game show in which contestants guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clues, before one of them plays to win £50,000.

**7.30** **Off Their Rockers.** An OAP attempts escapology for the first time.

**8.00** **Endeavour.** Morse meets his intellectual match when a serial killer keeps himself one step ahead of the law and leaves cryptic messages to goad the police. Starring Shaun Evans.

**10.00** **Perspectives: Jonathan Ross: Alfred Hitchcock – Made in Britain.** The life and career of the celebrated director.

**11.00** **ITV News:** Weather.

**11.15** **Premiership Rugby Union.**

**12.15** **The Store.** 2.15 British Superbike Championship Highlights. **3.10** Monk. (R) **4.40** **ITV News:** Weather. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

## CHANNEL 4

**6.15** The Hoobs. (R) **6.40** The Hoobs. (R) **7.05** Freesports on 4. **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **8.55** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.55** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.20** The Simpsons. (R) **1.50** The Simpsons. (R) **2.20** **Film:** Meet Dave. (2008) Sci-fi comedy, starring Eddie Murphy. **4.05** Deal or No Deal. **5.05** Five Minutes to a Fortune.

**6.05** **Channel 4 News.**

**6.30** **Come Dine with Me.** Contestants from Sheffield try to outdo each other with their culinary creations, but Chris Crossley's attempts to charm Suzanne Bell backfire. (R)

**7.30** **Film: The Karate Kid.** (2010) Premiere. An American youngster living in China falls foul of bullies, until a kung fu master teaches him to defend himself. Martial arts drama, with Jaden Smith and Jackie Chan.

**10.15** **Film: Max Payne.** (2008) A tormented cop searches for his wife's killer while investigating a series of murders connected to a hallucinatory drug. Action thriller, starring Mark Wahlberg and Mila Kunis.

**12.10** **Film: Enemy at the Gates.** (2001) Second World War drama, starring Jude Law. **2.25** Turn of Mind. **2.40** Inside Nature's Giants: The Big Cats. The anatomy of big cats. (R) **3.35** Come Dine with Me. Four strangers from south Devon compete to host the perfect dinner party. (R) **4.30** Deal or No Deal. Beat-the-banker game show. (R) **5.25** Countdown. (R)

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowerpots. (R) **6.25** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **6.30** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.45** Chloe's Closet. **6.55** Roobarb and Custard Top. (R) **7.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.15** Animal Antics. (R) **7.20** Noddy in Toyland. (R) **7.35** Mio Mao. (R) **7.40** City of Friends. (R) **7.50** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.10** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.20** Milkshake! Show Songs. (R) **8.25** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.35** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **9.30** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.45** Jelly Jam. (R) **10.00** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **10.05** Power Rangers: Super Samurai. (R) **10.40** Batman: The Brave and the Bold. **11.10** Inside Hollywood. **11.15** Trauma Doctors. (R) **12.15** Cowboy Builders. (R) **1.15** Rolf's Animal Clinic. (R) **2.20** **Film:** It Could Happen to You. (1994) **4.15** **Film:** Little Women. (1994)

**6.30** **5 News Weekend.**

**6.35** **Film: The Fifth Element.** (1997) Sci-fi adventure, starring Bruce Willis, Milla Jovovich and Gary Oldman.

**9.00** **Once Upon a Time.** Snow and Emma try to find a portal back to Storybrooke.

**10.00** **Person of Interest.**

**10.55** **Film: Blood Work.** (2002) Crime thriller, directed by and starring Clint Eastwood and Anjelica Huston.

**1.05** **Super Casino.** **3.55** **Wildlife SOS.** (R) **4.45** **County Secrets.** (R) **4.55** **Hana's Helpline.** (R) **5.10** **Angels of Jarm.** (R) **5.15** **Roary the Racing Car.** (R) **5.25** **The Funky Valley Show.** (R) **5.35** **Hana's Helpline.** (R) **5.50** **Roary the Racing Car.** (R)

## DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00** World's Craziest Fools **7.30** Live MotoGP **9.00** The Voice UK **10.00** Barely Legal Drivers **11.00** Family Guy **11.45** American Dad! **BBC Four**  
**7.00** The Century That Wrote Itself **8.00** The Review Show **9.00** Arena: aka Norman Parkinson **10.00** Secret Life of Rockpools **11.00** Motor Racing at the BBC: That Petrol Emotion **11.30** Exotic Pop at the BBC

**ITV2**  
**3.45** You've Been Framed! **4.15** Britain's Got Talent **5.45** Britain's Got More Talent **6.45** The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (2008) **9.00** **Film:** Shaun of the Dead (2004) **11.00** **Celebrity Juice** **11.50** **Film:** Kiss Kiss Bang Bang (2005)

**ITV3**  
**3.55** **Film:** Agatha Christie's Murder in Three Acts (1986) **5.55** Agatha Christie's Poirot **8.00** **Film:** Hamlet (1990) **10.45** Blue Murder

**ITV4**  
**10.45** Live British Touring Car Championship **6.00** Police, Camera, Action! **7.00** The Sweeney **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union **9.00** Cycling **10.00** Indian Premier League Cricket **11.00** **Film:** 8 Mile (2002)

**E4**  
**3.05** Charmed **4.05** Revenge **5.00** How I Met Your Mother **5.30** New Girl **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.30** The Mindy Project **8.00** **Film:** Bride Wars (2008) **9.45** Derren Brown: Something Wicked This Way Comes **11.20** 2 Broke Girls **11.50** The Big Bang Theory

**Film4**  
**2.50** Rear Window (1954) **5.15** Just Wright (2010) **7.10** Knights of the South Bronx (2005) **9.00** Semi-Pro (2008) Comedy, starring Will Ferrell. **10.50** The Full Monty (1997)

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## What's On!

### Film Choices

#### MONDAY

##### Pistol Whipped, Channel 5, 11pm

An alcoholic former cop is offered a tempting deal by a mysterious old man – if he assassinates a powerful gangster, all his gambling debts will be paid. But as he prepares to carry out his deadly mission, he begins to suspect his employer is hiding something from him. Action thriller, starring Steven Seagal. (2008)

#### TUESDAY

##### Air Force One, BBC1, 11.05pm

The American president is forced to take drastic measures to save his family when their plane is hijacked by Russian terrorists demanding the release of a jailed radical general. Meanwhile, the vice president tries to manage the crisis from Washington and has to decide whether to shoot the aircraft down. Action thriller, starring Harrison Ford, Gary Oldman, Glenn Close, Dean Stockwell and William H Macy. (1997)

#### WEDNESDAY

##### Munich, BBC1, 11.05pm

After the killing of 11 Israeli coaches and athletes at the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich, Israeli prime minister Golda Meir sanctions a team of assassins to slay the Palestinian terrorists responsible. But as the death toll rises and each elimination brings yet more reprisals, the hit squad's leader begins to question his orders. Steven Spielberg's thriller, with Eric Bana, Daniel Craig, Ciaran Hinds and Geoffrey Rush. (2005)



Munich, Wednesday, BBC1, 11.05pm

#### THURSDAY

##### The Specialist, Channel 5, 10pm

An explosives expert is reluctantly persuaded out of retirement by the charms of a vengeful woman bent on destroying the gang that murdered her parents. He carries out a series of assassinations with expert precision, but finds himself caught in a deadly game of cat and mouse when one of his targets hires a former colleague to track him down. Action thriller, starring Sylvester Stallone, Sharon Stone, James Woods, Rod Steiger and Eric Roberts. (1994)

#### FRIDAY

##### 2 Fast 2 Furious, ITV, 10.35pm

A disgraced former cop is arrested by the FBI for illegal street racing, but his one-time colleagues offer him freedom in exchange for going on an undercover mission. Teaming up with an old racing friend and a customs official, he has to infiltrate and bring down a drug-trafficking operation. Thriller sequel, with Paul Walker reprising his role from The Fast and the Furious alongside Tyrese Gibson, Eva Mendes and Cole Hauser. (2003)

### Pick of the Week

## Dramatic series draws to a great conclusion

So, have you figured out whodunit yet? Usually, the resolution of a whodunit is guessable, especially one that has lasted several weeks in which each suspect has been examined and dismissed (or otherwise) throughout the run.

So, have you figured out whodunit yet? Usually, the resolution of a whodunit is guessable, especially one that has lasted several weeks in which each suspect has been examined and dismissed (or otherwise) throughout the run.

But not Broadchurch – it's been a different breed altogether, and thank goodness for that. Too many dramas these days have been made to appeal to viewers with short attention spans; they're smart, snappy and scenes last about 30 seconds.

However, this eight-part series from acclaimed writer Chris Chibnall has been a slow-burner, with the patience of audience members rewarded with one of the most gripping plots we've seen in a long while.

So far we've learned that Danny Latimer has been murdered and that most of the people in the town of Broadchurch, where he lived, have

something to hide and so could, possibly, have bumped him off in an attempt to keep their secret under wraps for ever.

And that's about it really – although we're just as keen to find out what's really wrong with DI Alec Hardy, the detective in charge of the case, as we are the identity of the killer.

But no matter how intriguing the storyline, the programme just wouldn't be worth tuning in for if it wasn't for the acting, which has been of a uniformly high standard. At the centre of it all is Jodie Whittaker as Beth, Danny's grief-stricken mother.

The 30-year-old Huddersfield-born actress is making a habit of playing young mums – in BBC Two's Royal Wedding, she was a woman who'd had a baby at 15, and she's in the same situation here.

No doubt her next role will be very different, but there's no denying she's the heart and soul of this series. And what's particularly interesting is that during filming, neither she nor the rest of the cast knew who the killer was.

"I only got the first episode for the audition and I found that quite nerve-racking, not knowing where it was

going," she says. "But that's a really great thing to do because it keeps you anxious the whole way through. It keeps you guessing and makes you not trust any of the other characters; which you wouldn't do in that environment."

"That first episode was heart-breaking to read, but you met so many interesting characters. When I came on board, David Tennant, Olivia Colman, Vicky McClure and Andrew Buchan were already attached. Every week, new names were signed to it which was really exciting to think you would be working with them on an ensemble piece."

"Not a lot of dramas are ensemble and there are about 20 of us."

But it hasn't just been the human cast that Jodie has enjoyed being around – the Dorset scenery has almost been a character itself.

"I always enjoy filming on location as there is that feeling that you can be in it the whole time; you are staying away, you don't have to deal with normal life when you get home from work, so it's been a great experience."

It's been great watching it too – here's hoping the last episode lives up to expectations.



Jodie Whittaker stars in Broadchurch, Monday, ITV, 9pm

### Best of the Rest

#### MONDAY

##### Ben Fogle: New Lives in the Wild Channel 5, 9pm

Normally, when people on TV talk about wanting to quit the rat race and lead a simpler life, they mean they want a period cottage in a county village. However, the people in this new series have taken a more extreme approach, setting up home in some of the world's most remote locations. Ben Fogle is on a mission to experience their extraordinary lifestyles, and in the opening edition, he's journeying to Australia's Great Barrier Reef to live with David Glasheen. The former businessman lost \$10million in the stock market crash of 1987, and with the last of his savings, he bought the lease on part of the 100-acre, volcanic Restoration Island, where he and his dog Quasi are the sole residents.

#### The Prisoners

##### BBC1, 9pm

This Pentonville-set fly-on-the-bars doc might be just the antidote after a soap-heavy Monday diet of EastEnders, Emmerdale and Corrie. As cameras return to the north London facility holding more than 1,000 male prisoners, we meet Mick, an inmate whose crimes have led to years of incarceration. There's a chance he may wind up breaking the law unless he has proper housing once released. We also get an insight into the life of Senol, who is trying to forget his violent past and build a better future with his fiancée. However, a battle with the bottle could be his biggest hurdle. Some fascinating sentences from those doing long sentences.

#### TUESDAY

##### The Syndicate BBC1, 9pm

They say money can't buy you love, and in Mandy's case, it can't buy you freedom or happiness either. Even with £14million sitting in the bank accruing interest, her life is in a worse state than ever. Mandy has bound and gagged her abusive husband Steve in the cellar, bitter colleague Helen is upping her blackmail demands, and the nurse is facing the distinct possibility of spending a stint in prison. On a happier note, there's love in the air for Tom and Natalie at their housewarming party, and the couple make a big announcement. Perhaps we will see some good coming from the lottery win after all, as Kay Mellor's ensemble drama series draws to a close.

#### WEDNESDAY

##### Coast BBC2, 8pm

Don't berate yourself for being lazy because you can't bear to prise yourself away from the sofa to face the outdoors thanks to the lacklustre weather; that's what this gem of a series is there for – to bring the stories of our coasts to the comfort of our living rooms. This week, the team looks at stories linked to estuaries around the UK,

with Nick Crane heading off in the direction of the Firth of Forth to investigate the 'solitor'. He wants to learn more about the rare type of wave that seems to travel endlessly without losing energy or breaking up. Meanwhile, Miranda Krestovnikoff reveals how salmon fend off dehydration by migrating to saltwater.

#### Great Bear Stakeout BBC1, 9pm

If you go down to the woods today, you're sure of a big surprise – because spring has sprung in Alaska, and the grizzly bears are emerging from hibernation. In this two-part documentary series, comedian and actor Billy Connolly narrates fascinating footage of the creatures venturing out into the wilderness for the first time in months, as they are thrust together in a frenzy of feeding, fighting and mating. Tonight's opening edition introduces us to first-time mum Parsnip and her cub, Pushki. Parsnip will have a long road ahead of her as she fights for her cub's survival in one of the harshest climates in the world – where only half of bear cubs make it through the season.



Ben Earl: Trick Artist, Friday, Channel 4, 9pm

#### THURSDAY

##### MasterChef BBC1, 8pm

For the past eight years, Gregg Wallace and John Torode have been reminding us how "Cooking doesn't get much tougher than this!", though troops making beans on toast in a war zone might beg to differ. You know the drill by now: hundreds entered, but only a handful of cooks were given a chance to prove their worth. So, who can stand the heat and who will be forced to leave the kitchen? That remains to be seen, but as 2012 winner Shelina Permaloo raised the bar rather high, we do know it will take steely resolve for the eventual finalists to transform their ideas from a concept into a mouthwatering reality.

#### FRIDAY

##### Ben Earl: Trick Artist Channel 4, 9pm

Magic is enjoying something of a boom at the moment, having been absent from our screens for a time it's now bigger than ever thanks to the likes of Dynamo. Ben Earl is the latest in a glut of exciting new talents, and his four-part series looks set to be something special. Each edition focuses on one topic, beginning with crime, upon which Earl offers an array of bewildering, bedazzling illusions, sleight-of-hand tricks and cunning deceptions. He invites a group of people to join him as he undertakes his feats, which tonight include a bullet-catch – a trick so dangerous it's only attempted by the best, and which, legend has it, has claimed the lives of at least 12 performers.

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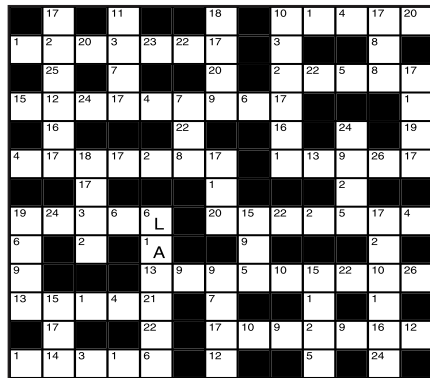
## Puzzler

## Brain Gym

No.217

## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



1	A	14
2		15
3		16
4		17
5		18
6	L	19
7		20
8		21
9		22
10		23
11		24
12		25
13		26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

F	Y	D	N	K	W	Q	R	B	M	I	G	C
P	S	T	H	Z	O	X	L	E	U	V	J	A

## Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

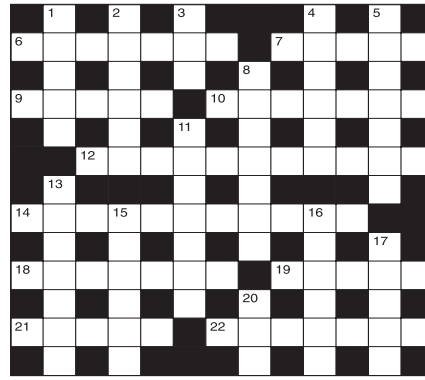
## Cryptic Clues:

## Across

6. Unusually angered (7)  
 7. Agree to advance (3,2)  
 9. Such remarks may still be pointed! (5)  
 10. Decorations I prohibit in small thoroughfares (7)  
 12. For many road-users, they provide a stern outlook (4,7)  
 14. Patient attendants who treat only employees? (5,6)  
 18. He won't make certain advances (7)  
 19. It may be sung in a lovely rich baritone voice (5)  
 21. People count on them to send them to sleep! (5)  
 22. Exercise done by a prisoner (7)

## Down

1. Single unfronted fireplace (5)  
 2. Native American who may keep watch for you (6)  
 3. Catch a number up (3)  
 4. Free beer held up and put down again (6)  
 5. Common knowledge (3-4)  
 8. I arrive upset, for a sunny holiday? (7)  
 11. A good one will be true to type (7)  
 13. Wasting a prize (7)  
 15. Possibly gifted young scholars may be told not to! (6)  
 16. Rarely seen part of the French President's residence (6)  
 17. Not much to steal (5)  
 20. Don't go without a pen (3)



## Quick Clues:

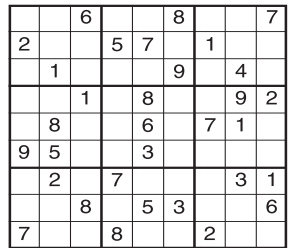
## Across

6. Nominate (7)  
 7. Lesser (5)  
 9. Afterwards (5)  
 10. Pad (7)  
 12. Booby prize (6,5)  
 14. Go separate ways (4,7)  
 18. Horse-soldiers (7)  
 19. Accumulate (5)  
 21. Performed (5)  
 22. Regulated (7)

## Down

1. Utter (5)  
 2. Spanish dance (6)  
 3. Finish (3)  
 4. Chessman (6)  
 5. A wise man (7)  
 8. Vegetables (7)  
 11. Postpone (7)  
 13. Poise (7)  
 15. Journey (6)  
 16. Figure (6)  
 17. Awry (5)  
 20. Skill (3)

## Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS &gt;

6	1	9	7	3	8	4	2	5
3	2	7	6	5	4	9	1	8
8	5	4	9	1	2	6	3	7
7	4	5	1	6	3	2	8	9
1	6	2	4	8	9	7	5	3
9	3	8	5	2	7	1	6	4
5	7	1	3	4	6	8	9	2
2	9	3	8	7	1	5	4	6
4	8	6	2	9	5	3	7	1

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:  
 CRYPTIC: Across: 1 Hostile act; 7 Adder; 8 Frantic; 10 Knock-out; 11 Area; 13 Absent; 15 Amoral; 17 Tear; 18 Imprison; 21 Regatta; 22 Liege; 23 Better half. Down: 1 Hydro; 2 Striking; 3 Influx; 4 Edam; 5 Caterer; 6 Taskmaster; 9 Challenger; 12 Umbrella; 14 Spangle; 16 Impair; 19 Sheaf; 20 Stet. QUICK - Across: 1 Similitude; 7 Clear; 8 Support; 10 Overseer; 11 Mean; 13 Nectar; 15 Grieve; 17 Arid; 18 Toboggan; 21 Tip-toed; 22 Amass; 23 Ingredient. Down: 1 Sieve; 2 Marksman; 3 Lessen; 4 Type; 5 Diocesan; 6 Accountant; 9 Tenderness; 12 Arrogate; 14 Crispin; 16 Sordid; 19 Guilt; 20 Pour.



**Good Night Ring**

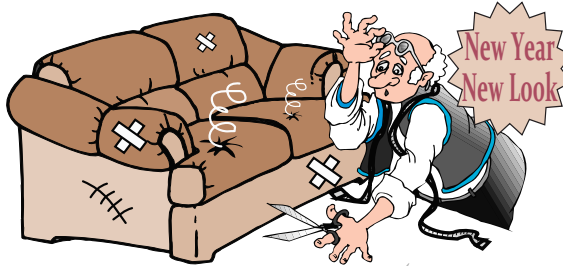
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 Simon B

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**CRADLEY HEATH, NEWLAND GARDENS**

Spacious well situated link detached bungalow in cul de sac position. Large lounge, fitted kitchen opening into superbly proportioned full with conservatory overlooking private rear garden. 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with shower, garage & driveway, gas central heating/double glazed. Available immediately. Unfurnished or furnished to suit. EPC: D

**£650 PCM**



**HALESOWEN, WHITTINGHAM ROAD**

The best position for Newfield Primary School and Halesowen College. This large 3 bedroom semi-detached house features fitted kitchen with double oven and gas hob, utility room/storage area, huge lounge with patio doors to a nice sized rear garden, modern bathroom with 'y' shaped bath and shower, driveway parking and garage. EPC: F

**£650 PCM**



**HALESOWEN, SANDERSON PLACE**

Luxury living in Hayley Green. This superb luxury 1st floor apartment offers spacious accommodation including open plan lounge/kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, master with en-suite, a further well appointed bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing and allocated parking. EPC: B

**£625 PCM**



**HALESOWEN, HOWLEY GRANGE ROAD**

A large and unfurnished semi detached house in a well sought after location, close to local primary school and ideal for access to Birmingham and featuring gas central heating, 2 living rooms, fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, small rear garden, driveway parking. EPC: E

**£625 PCM**



**OLDBURY, ST MATTHEWS ROAD**

Refurbished to a high standard. This 3 bedroom mid-terrace property in Oldbury/Quinton area has lounge, fitted kitchen, blow air central heating, white bathroom suite with shower, separate wc, rear garden with parking. Available immediately. EPC: D

**£600 PCM**



**DUDLEY, STOURBRIDGE ROAD**

Totally refurbished to a good standard with period features. A terraced four bedroom property close to Dudley town centre featuring a lovely entrance hall with mirror flooring, charming lounge and separate dining room with feature fireplace, large new kitchen with overhead, electric oven, family bathroom with shower and a wonderful rear garden. Viewing recommended to appreciate this property. Available immediately. EPC: F

**£595 PCM**



**HALESOWEN, PARK RIDGE DRIVE**

Cul-de-sac location. Ideally located for Colley Lane Primary School, buses to Halesowen & Stourbridge plus local shops. An unfurnished semi detached house with 3 bedrooms, fitted kitchen, lounge, gas central heating, double glazing, bathroom with shower, garage and driveway parking, rear garden. EPC: D

**£575 PCM**



**HALESOWEN, FATHERLESS BARN CRESCENT**

Excellent value for money. An exceptionally spacious house in a very popular location close to local shops and bus routes to Merry Hill, Halesowen and Stourbridge. Close to Colley Lane Primary School, featuring 3 double bedrooms, through lounge, modern fitted kitchen, house bathroom with shower, double glazing, gas central heating, rear garden with great views. EPC: C

**£575 PCM**



**HALESOWEN, NEW JOHN STREET**

Well presented mid terraced house within walking distance to Blackheath. This large mid terraced house features 3 good sized bedrooms, gas central heating, lounge, fitted dining kitchen with range cooker, utility room, guest WC, bathroom with shower, large garden, driveway parking. EPC: D

**£550 PCM**



**ROWLEY REGIS, THRONE ROAD**

Located on a commuter route into Birmingham and close to the M5 J2, this well presented unfurnished semi-detached home features 3 bedrooms, large through lounge, modern fitted kitchen, house bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing, front and rear garden, off road parking. EPC: E

**£550 PCM**



**TIPTON, PEARTREE AVENUE**

Cul-de-sac location. This deceptively large 3 bedroom terraced house has undergone a redecoration. It features a spacious lounge, large modern fitted kitchen, house bathroom with shower, nice sized garden, driveway parking and is in a quiet cul-de-sac location. EPC: C

**£550 PCM**



**CRADLEY HEATH, COPPICE ROAD**

A 2 bedroom semi-detached house recently fully refurbished comprising front reception room, spacious rear lounge, fitted kitchen, house bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing, front and rear gardens, on road parking. EPC: C

**£495 PCM**



**CRADLEY HEATH, SEEDHOUSE COURT**

Set within lovely private gardens. Ideally located for Old Hill train station, local shops and buses for Cradley Heath, Halesowen and Merry Hill, a part furnished ground floor apartment featuring 2 double bedrooms, fitted kitchen with white goods, spacious lounge with sofa and dining table and chairs, house bathroom with shower, allocated parking. EPC: D

**£475 PCM**



**HALESOWEN, STOUR COURT**

Located in a quiet, desirable neighbourhood. This well kept 1st floor apartment is situated in a peaceful cul de sac. Offering a spacious living room, modern fitted kitchen with built in cooker and hob, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with fitted shower, allocated parking space. EPC: C

**£475 PCM**



**CRADLEY HEATH, HALAS COURT**

Secure gated access and your own private balcony. An unfurnished top floor modern apartment, accessible by communal lift, close to local shops, train station, and bus routes, comprising a lovely light lounge, fitted kitchen with appliances, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, communal gardens, secure parking area, internal inspection recommended. EPC: B

**£450 PCM**



**LYE, HIGH STREET**

Fully refurbished in the centre of Lye. This large and spacious 1st floor apartment features a lovely lounge with a feature bay window, 2 good size bedrooms, rear bathroom suite but no shower, modern and contemporary kitchen with oven and hob, electric heating, double glazing, on road parking. Available now. EPC: F

**£450 PCM**



**NETHERTON, ST GEORGES ROAD**

Spacious and quiet. A totally refurbished 1st floor apartment featuring electric storage heating, living room, fitted kitchen with a fridge freezer, 1 double bedroom with fitted wardrobes, house bathroom with shower, rear garden, parking space. EPC: D

**£425 PCM**



**CRADLEY HEATH, ELBOW STREET**

Set in the heart of Old Hill. A modern and spacious 2nd floor apartment, ideally situated for Old Hill train station and shopping in Cradley Heath. This apartment offers 2 double bedrooms, fitted kitchen with washer/dryer, modern bathroom with shower, large lounge, 1 allocated parking space. An opportunity not to be missed! EPC: B

**£425 PCM**



**OLDBURY, CAUSEWAY GREEN ROAD**

Deceptively large and spacious. A split level apartment above local shops, within walking distance to bus links for Langley and Oldbury and close to J2 of the M5. Comprises gas central heating, spacious living room, fitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with shower, parking to rear, with the added bonus of a porch, unfurnished. EPC: D

**£400 PCM**



**NETHERTON, BAPTIST END ROAD**

An unfurnished 1st floor flat comprising: living room, fitted kitchen, 1 double bedroom, bathroom with shower, electric storage heating, double glazing, parking space to rear, communal garden. EPC: D

**£395 PCM**



**DUDLEY, BLACKACRE ROAD**

Luxury contemporary living, serviced studios 1.4 and 5 all with shared bathroom facilities. Will include council tax, broadband, servicing, heating and hot water plus sky tv.

**£395 PCM**

# Home of Property

**Your top property guide for Dudley, Halesowen, Sedgley, Kidderminster and Stourbridge**

## Much improved Lower Gornal link detached



The bungalow in Cedarwood Close is selling for offers around £179,950

**A WELL-maintained and improved link detached bungalow in Lower Gornal is on the market priced at £179,950.**

The property in Cedarwood Close benefits from gas central heating and uPVC double glazing, and internal inspection is recommended.

On the ground floor the L-shaped lounge/dining room, 19ft 2in by 12ft 11in, has a marble effect insert and hearth and gas living flame fire while the kitchen - 8ft 9in by 7ft 10in - has a sink drainer, wall, drawer and base units, work surfaces, electric oven, gas hob with extractor over and plumbing for dishwasher.

There are two bedrooms - one with French doors to the rear garden - and a shower room with cubicle, pedestal wash hand basin and WC.

Outside is a utility room with stainless steel sink drainer, base and wall cupboards, work surface and plumbing for automatic washing machine.

There is also a carport, with the property approached over a brick block paved driveway and parking area with the rear garden having a patio area, lawn, borders and shrubs. Call Wakeman on 01902 662355.

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## Ripley Grove, Dudley



Offers Over £180,000

Detached four bedroom modern property briefly comprising kitchen/diner, lounge, downstairs WC, master bedroom with en-suite and garden.

## Foxyyards Road, Tipton



Offers Over £160,000

A detached three bedroom house with garage, off road parking, front and rear gardens. Situated on a corner plot. Viewing is essential.

## Brookfield Way, Tipton



Offers Over £130,000

Detached three bedroom property benefitting from living room, kitchen/diner, bathroom, en-suite, rear garden, driveway and garage.

## Castle Road, Tipton



Offers Over £125,000

Detached three bedroom property benefitting from entrance hall, living room, dining room, rear garden and driveway.

## Hilltop Road, Dudley



£120,000

Semi detached three bedroom property benefitting from lounge/diner, extended modern kitchen, rear garden and driveway.

## Denbigh Close, Dudley



Offers Over £110,000

Semi detached two bedroom property briefly comprising lounge, modern kitchen/diner, bathroom, gardens and driveway.

## Ambleside Close, Bradley



Offers Over £80,000

A two bedroom terraced property briefly comprising lounge, kitchen/diner, bathroom, front and rear gardens, driveway and allocated parking.

## Graingers Lane, Cradley Heath



EPC  
Awaited



Guide £150,000 - £200,000

This individual property offers a variety of accommodation comprising a shop on the front, garage and carport. Halesowen.

## Windsor Road, Halesowen



£160,000

A three bedroom house benefitting from extended lounge, separate dining room, conservatory, gardens and parking. Halesowen.

## New Pool Road, Cradley Heath



£97,950

An end terraced property comprising porch, WC, lounge, kitchen/diner, three bedrooms, family bathroom, rear garden and driveway.

## Powke Lane, Rowley Regis



Offers Over £140,000

This modern terraced house has the following accommodation. Comprising lounge/diner, kitchen two bedrooms and family bathroom. Halesowen.

## The Infield, Halesowen



£136,999

Modern property with accommodation including lounge/diner, three bedrooms, rear garden and parking. Halesowen.

## Throne Road, Rowley Regis



£115,000

Traditional property with accommodation comprising lounge, kitchen, further kitchen utility area, three bedrooms and rear garden. Halesowen

## St. James Avenue, Rowley Regis



£84,000

Modern semi detached property with accommodation comprising lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms, front and rear gardens. Halesowen.



# Motoring



The new generation Nissan Leaf features more than 100 improvements over its predecessor



The car's range has been extended from 109 miles to 124 miles

# Turn over a new Leaf with latest all-electric

**THE next generation of Nissan's all-electric Leaf has arrived – and for the first time, buyers can lease batteries for the 100 per cent electric car and choose one of three trim levels.**

A new pricing structure has been introduced to reflect the three trim levels and the battery-leasing options now available – but things are far from complicated. Cars bought with leased batteries will be known as 'Flex' models and buyers will be able to get behind the wheel of an entry-level Visia Leaf on that basis for £15,990 (after receipt of the Government's £5,000 plug-in grant).

The separate battery lease payment ranges from just £70 per month depending on the length of the contract and mileage covered.

The highest price anyone will pay for a Leaf is £25,490 (again, after receipt of the grant). This will be for a top-of-the-range Tekna Leaf, with the battery bought outright.

The new Leaf features more than 100 improvements over its predecessor – many of which were made as a result of feedback from Nissan's active community of Leaf owners.

Most notably, the car's range has been extended from 109 miles to 124 miles. And its battery is capable of recharging in about half the time of the first-generation Leaf.

The longer range has been achieved by improving the Leaf's aerodynamics and its regenerative braking system and a more efficient E-powertrain. The real world range has also been improved with the introduction of a new heating system which is 70 per cent more efficient through the use of a heat pump in the system.

## Unique

But that's far from the whole story. New interior trim, the addition of Nissan's Around View Monitor technology and new suspension settings specifically tailored for European roads build on the Leaf's unique driving experience.

The three trim levels available to UK buyers are Visia, Acenta and Tekna. All models have increased boot space because of the relocation of the charging point and an enhanced interior trim. There is a height-adjust facility on both front seats and more foot space for passengers.

At the top of the range, Tekna features a Bose energy-efficient sound system with a subwoofer and seven speakers. In addition, there are 17in alloys and LED headlamps.

Whichever route buyers choose to Leaf ownership, peace of mind is assured with Nissan's enhanced battery warranty. The warranty on the previous-generation Leaf's battery covered it against defective materials or workmanship for five years. The extended warranty also protects against capacity loss, with a commitment to repair or replace a battery which falls short of what might reasonably be expected.

Nissan's announcement of a new era for emission-free motoring continues to drive the electric revolution forward. Owning an electric car has never been more appealing. Some of the benefits are well-known, such as the lack of Vehicle Excise Duty and exemption from the London congestion charge, but it's becoming easier to charge up a Nissan Leaf on the move with more public charging points opening all the time. And of course, the cost of a full battery charge is a fraction of the price of a tank of petrol.

Jim Wright, managing director of Nissan Motor (GB) Ltd, said: "We are very proud of the new Nissan Leaf, which underlines our commitment to the future of electric motoring."

"With more than 100 improvements over the outgoing model, it really does mark the next stage in the electric motoring revolution. Built at our record-breaking Sunderland plant for British drivers using British roads, we're looking forward to it becoming our next home-grown success story."



The Leaf has three trim levels, Visia, Acenta and Tekna



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1060	CORSA ENERGY 1.2 16V 3DR SILVER LIGHTNING 8,000 MILES FULL BODYKIT A/CON.....	£7795
1161	CORSA SE 1.2 16V 5DR SILVER LAKE 7,000 MILES LAST ONE AT SPECIAL PRICE.....	£7995
1161	CORSA SE 1.4 16V 5DR BLACK SAPPHIRE 7,500 MILES.....	£8395
1161	CORSA SE 1.4 16V 5DR BLACK SAPPHIRE 7,500 MILES PARK ASSIST & BLUETOOTH.....	£8695
1212	CORSA Sxi 1.4 16V BLACK SAPPHIRE 22,000 MILES ALLOYS A/CON.....	£8495
1212	CORSA Sxi 1.2 16V 3DR GLACIER WHITE 13,000 MILES ALLOYS A/CON.....	£8995
1212	CORSA SE 1.2 16V 5DR TECHNICAL GREY 10,500 MILES.....	£9195
1212	CORSA SE 1.4 16V 5DR SOVEREIGN SILVER 13,300 MILES.....	£9195
1212	CORSA SE 1.4 16V 5DR SILVER LAKE 15,000 MILES.....	£9195
1212	CORSA SE 1.4 16V 5DR TECHNICAL GREY 13,000 MILES.....	£9195
1212	CORSA SE 1.4 16V 5DR CARBON FLASH 14,900 MILES.....	£9195
1212	CORSA Sxi 1.2 16V 3DR GLACIER WHITE 13,000 MILES BODYKIT 17" ALLOYS.....	£9795
1212	CORSA Sxi 1.4 16V 5DR SILVER LAKE 8,000 MILES BODYKIT 17" ALLOYS.....	£9495
1212	CORSA Sxi 1.4 16V 5DR FLAME RED 4,500 MILES BODYKIT 17" ALLOYS.....	£9995
1212	CORSA Sxi 1.4 16V 3DR GLACIER WHITE 10,600 MILES TOUCH/CONNECT SAT NAV.....	£10695

## ASTRA

0505	ASTRA Sxi 1.9 CDTi 150PS 3DR STEEL GREY 48,800 MILES 18" ALLOYS.....	£5995
0656	ASTRA ACTIVE 1.6 16V 5DR SILVER 65,000 MILES.....	£4495
0757	ASTRA DESIGN 1.8 16V AUTO ESTATE BLACKSAPPHIRE 49,900 MILES.....	£4995
0808	ASTRA Sxi 1.8 16V 5DR X PACK BLACK SAPPHIRE 24,000 MILES 18" ALLOYS.....	SOLD
0808	ASTRA SPORT 1.6 16V TWIN TOP STAR SILVER 31,000 MILES.....	SOLD
0808	ASTRA DESIGN 1.8 16V TWIN TOP PANACOTTA 44,000 MILES 6495.....	SOLD
0909	ASTRA ACTIVE 1.7 CDTi 5DR SILVER LIGHTNING 39,500 MILES.....	£7195
0959	ASTRA ACTIVE PLUS 1.8 16V AUTO 5DR STAR SILVER 33,000 MILES.....	£6495
1060	ASTRA Sxi 1.6 16V 3DR SILVER LAKE 22,500 MILES ALLOYS A/CON.....	£7995
1160	ASTRA EXCLUSIV 1.4 TURBO 5DR SILVER LAKE 9,000 MILES.....	£9495
1111	ASTRA EXCLUSIV 1.4 16V 5DR GREEN SPIRIT 19,000 MILES.....	£8995
1111	ASTRA EXCLUSIV 1.7 CDTi ecoFLEX 99G co2 5DR SILVER 21,000 MILES SAT NAV PARK ASSIST.....	£10795
1212	ASTRA SE 1.4 TURBO 5DR CARBON FLASH 7,500 MILES OUR DEMO.....	SOLD

## MERIVA & ZAFIRA

0353	MERIVA LIFE 1.6 8V 5DR STAR SILVER 35,000 MILES ALLOYS.....	SOLD
1010	MERIVA DESIGN 1.6 16V BLACK SAPPHIRE 44,800 MILES A/CON TWIN S/ROOFS.....	£6495
1160	MERIVA ECLUSIV 1.7 CDTi 130ps 5DR TECHNICAL GREY 36,000 MILES A/CON.....	£7995
1111	MERIVA EXCLUSIV 1.3 CDTi ecoFLEX 5DR PEPPERDUST 14,000 MILES ALLOYS PARK ASSIST.....	SOLD
1161	MERIVA SE 1.4 TURBO 5DR ORIENTAL BLUE 16,000 MILES PANORAMIC ROOF.....	£9795
1212	MERIVA SE 1.4 TURBO 5DR SILVER LAKE 15,700 MILES PANORAMIC ROOF.....	£10495
1160	ZAFIRA ELITE 1.7 CDTi 110ps SOVEREIGN SILVER 36,000 MILES FULL LEATHER.....	£9995
1111	ZAFIRA Sxi 1.8 16V VXR PACK SOVEREIGN SILVER 36,000 MILES 18" ALLOYS.....	£9995
1161	ZAFIRA ELITE 1.7 CDTi 125ps BLACK SAPPHIRE 10,000 MILES SAT NAV PARK ASSIST LEATHER.....	£12995
1261	ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV 1.7 CDTi 110ps 5DR WATERWORLD BLUE 18,500 MILES.....	£9995
1212	ZAFIRA DESIGN 1.6 16V SOVEREIGN SILVER 7,500 MILES.....	£11195
1212	ZAFIRA TOURER EXCLUSIV 2.0 CDTi 160ps 5DR SILVER LAKE 9,000 MILES PARK ASSIST EX DEMO.....	£15695

## INSIGNIA

1111	INSIGNIA SE 1.8 16V 5DR CARBON FLASH 37,000 MILES 1/2 FAUX LEATHER.....	£9695
1111	INSIGNIA SE 1.8 16V 5DR SILVER LAKE 36,000 MILES 18" ALLOYS 1/2 FAUX LEATHER.....	£9995
1212	INSIGNIA EXCLUSIV 2.0 CDTi 130ps PANACOTTA SILVER 12,500 MILES PARK ASSIST.....	£12695
1212	INSIGNIA Sxi 2.0 CDTi 160ps 5DR OLYMPIC WHITE 16,000 MILES SAT NAV PARK ASSIST 18" ALLOYS.....	£14995
1212	INSIGNIA Sxi 2.0 CDTi 160ps VX-LINE OLYMPIC WHITE 15,600 MILES SAT NAV PARK ASSIST 19" ALLOYS.....	£15995
1212	INSIGNIA Sxi 2.0 CDTi 160ps SPORTS TOURER OLYMPIC WHITE 15,000 MILES SAT NAV 18" ALLOYS PARK ASSIST.....	£15995
1212	INSIGNIA SE 2.0 CDTi 160ps AUTO SPORTS TOURER SOV SILVER 13,000 MILES SAT NAV 18" ALLOYS PARK ASSIST.....	£15995

## MOKKA & ANTARA

1262	MOKKA SE 1.6 16V 5DR BORACAY BLUE 3,500 MILES SAT NAV FULL LEATHER LIFE TIME WARRANTY.....	£18995
1161	ANTARA SE 2.2 CDTi 184ps AUTO THUNDER GREY FLINT LEATHER 1,700 MILES ONLY.....	£18995

## OTHER MAKES

0252	AGILA CLUB 1.2 16V 5DR ARDEN BLUE 47,500 MILES.....	£2695
0353	FOCUS LX 1.6 16V 5DR GREEN METALLIC 45,000 MILES.....	SOLD
0404	KA 1.3i SILVER METALLIC 23,000 MILES.....	SOLD
0505	MINI ONE 1.4D METALLIC GOLD 61,000 MILES A/CON ALLOYS.....	£6695
0505	KIA PICANTO 1.0GS 5DR SILVER 45,000 MILES.....	£3295
0606	TIGRA EXCLUSIV 1.4 16V FLAME RED 69,983 MILES FULL LEATHER 17" ALLOYS.....	£4995
0606	MAZDA MX5 2.0 GREY METALLIC 55,000 MILES.....	£6695
0707	FIAT GRANDE PUNTO ACTIVE 1.2 16V 3DR 36,000 MILES.....	£4495
0707	NISSAN X-TRAIL 2.2dCi SPORT BLACK METALLIC 63,500 MILES WITH EXTRA'S.....	SOLD
0857	ZAFIRA DESIGN 1.8 16V 5DR STAR SILVER 54,000 MILES.....	£6295
0857	LEXUS IS 220d SE-L DARK GREY METALLIC 48,000 MILES FULL LEATHER SAT NAV + EXTRA'S.....	£9995
0808	FIAT PUNT DYNAMIC 1.4 3DR RED 32,000 MILES.....	£4995
0808	HONDA CIVIC SE 1.8i-VTEC 5DR GREY METALLIC 28,500 MILES ALLOYS.....	£7695
0808	LANDROVER FREELANDER 2.2 Td4 GS AUTO BLACK METALLIC 44,000 MILES.....	£14495
0858	FIESTA ZETEC BLUE 1.25 SILVER METALLIC 25,000 MILES ALLOYS A/CON.....	£6195
0909	NEW KA STYLE 1.2 3DR METALLIC BLUE 19,000 MILES.....	£5795
0909	NISSAN MICRA 1.2 16V VISIA 5DR BRONZE METALLIC 7,000 MILES ONLY.....	£5995
0909	CITROEN C4 EXCLUSIVE 2.0 HDi 16V BLUE METALLIC 45,000 MILES REDUCED FURTHER.....	£6695
0959	MONDEO ZETEC 2.0 16V 5DR METALLIC GREY 45,600 MILES.....	£7995
1010	CITROEN C3 PICASSO VTR+ 1.6 HDi 16V GREY METALLIC 21,000 MILES.....	£7995
1010	RENAULT MEGANE COUPE 1.9 dCi 130ps PRIVILEGE TOM TOM GREY METALLIC 36,000 MILES.....	£9995

## VANS (ALL PLUS VAT)

0808	NISSAN NAVARRA DOUBLE-CAB LONGWAY DOWN 2.5D GREY METALLIC 20,000 MILES.....	£11995
1060	MITSUBISHI L200 4X4 4WORK 2.5d RED 36,000 MILES.....	£10695
1060	VIVARO LWB 2900 2.0 CDTi STAR SILVER 34,500 MILES SLD.....	£9495
1261	NEW COMBO L1 H1 1.3 CDTi FLAME RED ALLOYS SLD 12,000 MILES.....	SOLD
1212	NEW COMBO 1.3 CDTi L1H1 2300 STAR SILVER 8,000 MILES.....	£9295
1212	VAUXHALL CORSAVAN SPORTIVE 1.3 CDTi STAR SILVER 10,000 MILES.....	£7695
1212	VW CADDY PLUS 1.6 TDi 102ps WHITE 13,000 MILES.....	£9495
1212	VW TRANSPORTER T26 2.0 TDi 84ps SWB SILVER METALLIC 11,500 MILES APPEARANCE PACK.....	£14495
1262	VAUXHALL VIVARO SWB 2.0 CDTi DOUBLE-CAB WINTERWIND BLUE 3,000 MILES PARK ASSIST.....	£13995
1262	VAUXHALL VIVARO LWB 2.0 CDTi DOUBLE-CAB STEEL GREY 3,000 MILES PARK ASSIST.....	£14495

# T. Wall Vauxhall

## High Street, Pensnett, Kingswinford, DY6 8XB

Telephone: 01384 288333 www.twall.co.uk







# making Friends



**Guys Text n' Chat.** Text in now and chat to local people. Send : CHAT207 To : 60109 (T&C's below)

## SINGLE LADIES

**REMEMBER:** Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

**JANE** 48yrs West Midlands, likes meals out, cinema, theatre, looking for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403949

**48YR** old attractive female seeking local fun maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403947

**KATIE**, sensual curvy figure, well educated, attractive and very adventurous, seeks male for intimate evenings in. Can accommodate, no strings, fun only. Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box No: 325325

**JANE** attractive, seeking male for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403807

**KEELEY** 18yr old slim broadminded blonde, blue eyes, enjoys most things in life, WLTm older guy for fun meets. Discretion assured. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403581

**JULIE** gorgeous 40, loves the outdoors, theatre, WLTm energetic open-minded fun male up to 60yrs who like me is very loving and tactile. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403571

**32YR** old slim, dark haired, adventurous, creative, likes music, cycling and photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 352753

**SUSAN** 49, fun loving, 5ft 2ins, brown hair/eyes, many interests, needs heart mending. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 204862

**FUN** loving lady, outgoing, honest, caring, likes socialising, seeks older male, 50-70. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 383325

**KIND** romantic female, 50, seeking a male to talk, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 368429

**KERRY**, student nurse, just 19yrs. Very naughty girl! Call to hear what I've got to say. ACA. Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box No: 228864

**LOVING** caring young 67yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim size 12, brown hair, likes meals out, GSOH, smoker, seeks slim, smart male with GSOH, 58-62. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 364651

**TINA** fun loving single mum who enjoys most things in life, seeking happy guy with GSOH for meals in, dates out, possible romance and adult companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403567

**AMY** 19yr old single female looking for much older naughty male for discreet fun times only. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403381

**SHARON** medium built lovely, 33yrs, pale complexion, nice eyes, feminine, outgoing, confident, enjoys varied interests. WLTm all round nice guy for adult relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403345

**CAROL** South African lonely heart 37yrs, looking for fun with mature gent 50plus, likes dining in/out, discretion assured/appreciated. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403337

**WIDOW** seeking similar aged male to share holidays and weekends out. Car owner preferred. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 389795

**CARING** lady, 52, brown hair/eyes, seeks male, 30-60 for socialising, meals out, cinema, music, sports and having a laugh. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392883

**LONG** haired blonde, 37, enjoys meals out but would love to cook a romantic meal for the man of her dreams. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 361076

**TALL** curvy female, 36dd, loves music, looking for fun and romance with dark male. Give me a call. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 359238

**61YR** old lady 5ft 2ins, medium build, long dark hair, smoker, seeks smart gent who wants to get out and about for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396409

**BLONDE** tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384852

**BIG** bubbly black female, single mum, looking for male for nights in and out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392501

**DAWN** attractive, slim female, 45, N/S, no ties, WLTm tall, fit male with get up and go attitude towards life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375825

**YOUNG** looking, pretty female, 40, brunette, slim, no ties, N/S, seeks attractive, refined male for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 313115

**JANICE** 40, 5ft 5ins, medium build, brown eyes, likes music, cooking, cosy nights in/out, seeks similar male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397407

**SARAH** 23, attractive, brunette, slim, looking for male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392979

**GRACE** Jones lookalike, black lady, 53, 5ft 11ins, OHAC, WLTm male, 45-65, 6ft plus for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397681

**35YR** old female, seeks intelligent, down to earth male, 50-75 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388297

**FEMALE** looking for gent, 65-70, caring, loving and independent. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378295

**BIG** is beautiful! Female looking for someone to share a life time of happiness with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 368528

**SLIM** fit, bubbly female can't wait to meet a tall, slim, fit, mature male who thinks he can keep up. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 367066

**ATTRACTIVE** lady, GSOH, slim, dark hair, 50s, likes walks, films, art, meals out, seeks male with GSOH and similar interests for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 399245

**CARLA** 41, brown hair/eyes, 5ft 2ins, loving, seeking male who likes walks, cinema and romantic meals. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396127

**BLONDE** tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384852

**43YR** old female, bubbly, down to earth, trustworthy, honest, caring, seeks male, 45 plus. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402945

**APRIL** big bubbly 21yr old female who enjoys nights in/out, music, WLTm caring, loving older male, 30-45yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402789

**62YR** old female, widowed, small, slim, attractive, kind, outgoing, likes meals out, dancing, holidays, nights in, seeking professional gent. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394106

**BERNIE** Beautiful black lady with no ties seeks her King, curvy, intelligent, feminine and all you will ever need, what are you waiting for? Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402991

**LOUISE** 43, 5ft 5ins, medium build, average looks, likes reading, meals out, cinema, theatre, quiet pubs, honest, genuine, kind, caring, GSOH, seeks male, 42-58. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391308

**TO REPLY TO ADS WITH A TEXT THE BOX NUMBER TO SHORT CODE 63222. i.e. TEXT: 123456 to short code 63222**

**ALISON** 37 animal loving female who enjoys a quiet life, cooking, seeks older respectful male 42-60yrs to enjoy meals out and cosy nights in. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402793

**HI** I am Sara 21, a petite single mum, sporty, caring and looking for reliable, well groomed male 30-40yrs for adult 1-2-1. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402771

**JEANETTE** 35, blonde blue eyed attractive active nurse who really cares about people, WLTm someone genuine and honest to fall in love with. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402655

**LISA** 30's tall slim beauty looking for dining partner to romance, pamper and appreciate me in return for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402645

**GAIL** 52, blonde hair, 5ft 2ins, likes nights out, seeks N/S male, 50-60 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402041

**LOVING** caring young 68yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim-medium build, size 12, smoker, seeks slim, well-dressed guy with GSOH for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 399923

**LIZ** 42, black, divorced, seeking male, 44-54 for kind, sincere, honest, open relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 400949

**CLARE** 38, single mum, curvy hour glass, loves to be tactile, OHAC, WLTm caring male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 399047



**CAROLINE** attractive, kind, caring, 43, seeking kind, caring male for LTR, 45-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396837

**MANDY** 36, size 10, looking for relationship with open-minded man. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360317

**CURVY** red haired female, been hurt in the past seeks older male to buy her flowers and mend her broken heart. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 377432

**LITTLE** bit nice and definitely a little bit naughty! Imaginative curvy blonde seeks male for kisses and cuddles. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 363428

**SUE** 5ft 2ins female, brown hair/eyes, loving, likes music, socialising, films, good times, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393223

**IRENE** 55, blonde hair, brown eyes, loving, caring, genuine, N/S, lots of love to give, seeks male, 55-60 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392807

**BLONDE** attractive educated lady 50, young minded, seeks professional tall male, 45-55 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391818

**PROFESSIONAL** tall, slim, attractive, bubbly, genuine lady, seeks tall, professional, genuine guy, 40-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 215244

**SLIM** curvy blonde, 44, professional, seeks tall, professional male, 40-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 171231

**50YR** old female, seeks male for fun and socialising. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 233580

**FUN** loving lady, 56, outgoing, honest, caring, seeks caring male, 55-60 for friendship, possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391192

**GENUINE** female, 36, brunette, blue eyes, 5ft 7ins, fun, outgoing, adventurous, GSOH, looking for tall, honest, genuine male for good companion, dates and romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388327

**YVONNE** looking for Christian male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391135

**FEMALE** looking for stocky male, 50-60 to share a happy life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386169

**BLACK** attractive female, 34, slim, N/S, seeks genuine male for friendship, maybe more. Holby. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 367021

**PATRICIA** 5ft 5ins, red hair, blue eyes, likes nights out, meals, clubs, seeking nice young man who is kind, generous to look after me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378207

**MADLINE** 5ft black, seeks male 26-41 with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375789

**SFT** 1ins female, brown hair, blue eyes, medium build, seeks male, 40-50, honest, caring, trustworthy, down to earth and bubbly. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388741

**MARIA** 38, blonde, 5ft 5ins, caring, likes nights in/out, seeks caring male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392319

**33YR** old black haired, medium built, 5ft 3ins female seeking soul mate. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 389799

**NATALIE** 30, attractive, size 12, black, seeking male for romantic fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387753

**NICKY** looking for attractive male 48-55yrs for fun, good times and relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388393

**ANGIE** 36, likes cosy nights in/out, country walks, sensitive, caring, loyal, spiritual, seeks male to share life with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 368885

**KIND** romantic, loving lady, 43, slight disability, seeks genuine male for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387631

## SINGLE MEN

**REMEMBER:** Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

**Ladies Text n' Chat.** Text in now and chat to local people. Send : CHAT207 To : 60109 (T&C's below).

**COVENTRY** male, single, 6ft 1ins, 42, caring, GSOH, loves animals, Tai Chi, seeks female, 20-55, single mums ok, any nationality for nice times in/out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384677

**MIKE** 43yrs, 5ft 10ins, short brown hair, blue eyes, loving, caring personality, very genuine, WLTm lady 20-40yrs for LTR. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403901

**MALE** 73yrs fit, N/S, OHAC, WLTm slim lady of similar age for days out, holidays and walking. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403895

**ANDY** 46, looking for female, 40 plus for fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403869

# PLACE AN ADVERT

## 0844 887 2293

### REPLY TO MEMBERS

### 0906 500 3955

(09065 cost £1.53p/min)

### COLLECT MESSAGES

### 0906 500 3957

(09065 cost £1.53p/min)

**TIGER** Woods lookalike seeks mature, big, beautiful lady for fun and frolics. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403867

**29YR** old male, likes holidays, cinema, clubs, seeks female for friendship and fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403759

**ROBERT** 72, young looking, retired carpenter, N/S, non drinker, seeks kind, black lady in Wolverhampton area. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403641

**45YR** old British Asian male, 5ft 9ins, slim-medium build, kind, caring, GSOH, likes romantic meals, nights in, films, music, walks, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403631

**45YR** old British Asian male, 5ft 9ins, slim-medium build, kind, caring, GSOH, likes romantic meals, nights in, films, music, walks, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403631

**GARY** kind, caring, seeks special lady, any age for fun times and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403585

**MIKE** 45, bored, seeks female, any age for adult fun and good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403461

**JOHN** 59, 5ft 8ins, OHAC, GSOH, seeks lady, 46-55, likes meals out and in. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403273

**SINGLE** male, 60, WLTm local lady with strong physical needs for regular contact with no commitment initially. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 377459

**ATTRACTIVE** male, late 40's, seeks attractive female for fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 311713

**BRIAN** 60's, ordinary man, strong needs, seeks affectionate lady for close friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396765

**ATTRACTIVE** male, 55, seeks older female, 50-70 for close, adult fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397189

**60'S** male, medium build, fit, high drive, seeks West Midlands lady who needs occasional male evening/weekend company. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 381307

**MICHAEL** 50, nice eyes, seeking female companion for holidays and weekends away, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401479

**STEVE** 63, tall, fit, young outgoing, likes travel, socialising, holidays, N/S, seeks local lady, 55-60 for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402931

**MALE** 5ft 8ins, athletic, GSOH, seeks older lady for fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402357

**GENUINE** male, 54, own home, seeks female, any age for fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 368871

**SHROPSHIRE** male, 53, tall, dark, attractive, seeks attractive female for fun and excitement, any age/status. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 367373

**PAUL** 60, medium build, fit, virile with strong needs, WLTm West Midland lady for regular mutual pleasure. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 374821

**PATRICK** 60's, single, likes sports, music, reading, seeks lady friend to share evenings/weekend meetings together. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396053

**MALE** 47, 5ft 9ins, brown hair/eyes, slim-medium build, likes nights out, GSOH, seeks special female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 302861

**JIMMY** 53 good looking, fit, genuine, honest, very loving and looking for the same in a woman. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397157

**TALL** dark, attractive guy, 49, seeks attractive, younger female for fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 316752

**MALE** 60, strong needs, seeks similar lady for regular evening/weekend meetings. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384219

**DARREN** young looking 37, likes pubs, clubs, cinema, meals out, cosy nights in, seeks female 18-37. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392049

**CARL** 40, likes DVDs, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393766

**HARDWORKING** 41yr old male, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403131

**KARL** 40, fun loving, caring, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 389662

**GENUINE** good looking male, 38, seeking genuine female, 25-45 for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392233

**WEST** Midlands single guy 60, strong, WLTm affectionate lady, your place or mine for uncommitted enjoyment. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396807

**WARREN** 60's, romantic, WLTm affectionate lady for evenings/weekend meetings and close friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392191

**32YR** old slim, dark haired, adventurous, creative, caring, likes music, cycling, photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 352753

**VINCE** 52, caring, seeking female for fun and maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401683

**TALL** dark, good looking male, 53, seeks attractive female for daytime fun and exciting times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393380

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Coachman VIP 4602, 2008, 2 berth Touring Caravan, excellent condition. £19,000. 01902 363920.

**CARAVAN FOR SALE**, Coachman VIP 4602, 2008, 2 berth Touring Caravan, excellent condition. £19,000. 01902 363920.

## ELDDIS AVANTE 505, 5 berth, 2004, excellent condition.

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## SPRITE MAJOR 6, one owner from new, a well designed and equipped 6 berth caravan

includes mover, awning, porch and other extras. £8,995 ono. 01902 366925.

## STATIC CARAVAN

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## STATIC CARAVAN

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## what's on

## markets

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## pets corner

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## 2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.

## 3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.

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## SHIH TZU'S and Cavapoo's.

Adorable puppies. £350/£600. 07867 530504.

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## what's on

## markets

## BIGGEST SUNDAY MARKET

IN THE MIDLANDS  
Bescot Stadium, Walsall FC  
WS1 4SA, FREE PARKING, J9 M6  
07889 975701 All hard standing  
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## MGTF 03 reg, red, 48,000 miles,

MoT April 2014, good tyres, alloy head gasket, £2,650. Stourport 01299 878250.

## MINI COOPER, 2007, black, 31,000

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## NISSAN NOTE 58 reg 14 Acenta,

taxed, MoT, FSH, excellent condition, £4,500 ono. 01902 631739.

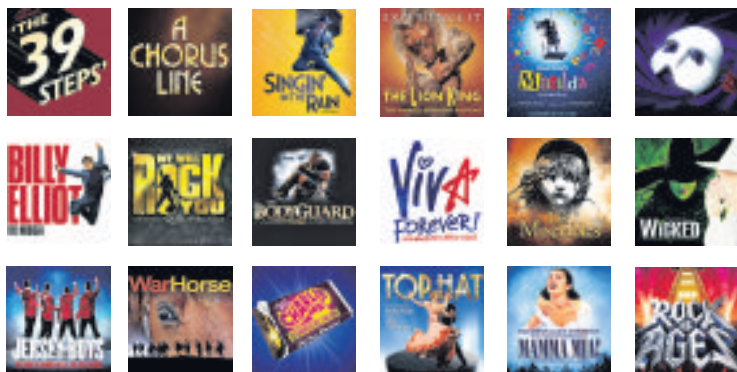
## NISSAN TERRANO 3.0, SVE TD,

2004, 73k, long MoT, 1 owner from new, FSH, 1 year to see will buy, £4,500 ono. 07931 994949.

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\*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details.  
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## Brace by Liz sees Hawks progress

**Girls League**  
**Droitwich Spa U17 0**  
**Halas Hawks U17 0**

THE first game of this U17 girls League Cup double header was a very close affair featuring good football, but ended goalless.

**Halas Hawks U17 2**  
**Droitwich Spa U17 0**

The second game saw Halas play some of their best football of the season. Liz McAleenan scored a brace to see them progress to the next stage of the competition.

**Boys League**  
**Halas Hawks U9 East 0**  
**Gornal Ath Minor U9 2**

Gornal took a 1-0 lead at the break. In the second half Ethan Daly forced a great save from the Gornal keeper before Gornal scored their second. Man of the match went to Aiden Mitton.

**Halas Hawks U10 West 3**  
**CS Colts U10 2**

First-half goals from Jayke Adams and a brace from Harvey Brookas to give Halas a comfortable lead. In the second half CS Colts scored twice but Halas managed to hold off a CS side pushing for second spot. Altrin Alshiqi won man of the match.

**Halas Hawks U11 East 3 W'ton**  
**Olympic U11 2**

Halas secured their second win in a week. They went into a 2-0 lead early on through Tom Baker and Harvey Jacobs and in the second half, Jake Crackett made it 3-0. The visitors pulled two back late on but Halas held firm. Man of the match went to Nesan Pathmakanathan and Harvey Jacobs.

**Quinton Eagles U14 4**  
**Halas Hawks U14 1**

Halas were the better side for large parts of the first half and took a deserved lead when Harry Clements prodded home to finish off a fine attacking move. They continued to press but paid for not taking their chances. Quinton hit back with three goals before half-time adding a fourth late on to make the score line a little unfair on Halas. Man of the match was midfielder Callum Hudson.

**Kewford Eagles U15 South 3**  
**Halas Hawks U15 1**

The under-15s went a goal up through Adam Higginson in the first half with Kewford equalising before the break. They made the best of their chances in the second half and scored. Man of the match was Ross Swain for his outstanding goal-keeping.



Jason Charlesworth, left, and Kyeran Cox celebrate

## Emotional win for Kyeran

### Martial arts

slowly in the elimination rounds, but soon adjusted and then began to show the best of his form.

The Charlesworth club provided two more teenagers in the final four at Treviglas College, Newquay – Reuben Charlesworth, 15, and 17-year-old Weston Bogle.

Cox and Bogle battled it out in a closely-fought semi-final before Cox went through.

In the final he was up against a Welsh fighter with bags of experience.

But Cox and Charlesworth had

devised a game plan which paid off. It looked at one point as if Cox might lose the bout on a technicality, but he maintained his focus and ended up as the winner by a single point.

"If anyone deserves to win this title, it's Kyeran," said Charlesworth afterwards. "He's had a battle to get back to his best and he is one of the best fighters in the world."

Cox will have little time to rest on his laurels. He and Charlesworth fly out to Stuttgart, Germany shortly for another tournament.

For details on the club, call Charlesworth on 01216 793059 or visit [www.cmafreestyle.co.uk](http://www.cmafreestyle.co.uk)

## George's back four turn on the style

**Moseley CC 197**  
**The George 228**

THE GEORGE Bowling Club first team started their Warwick & Worcester Premier Division One campaign with a fine 31-shot victory at Moseley CC.

But it was closer than the score suggests with each team having six winners.

The Oldbury side were six shots up after four games with Steve Darling (21-15) and Paul Richards (21-17) winning. The middle four games cut the lead to two shots, despite Paul Greene's 21-13 win.

But the back four players won it with Steve Dicken (21-7), Alan Belcher on debut (21-8) and Paul Henning (21-11) turning the match.

**The George 217**  
**Cradley S&S 197**

The seconds had eight winners against Cradley S&S in the South Staffs Premier Division.

The George trailed by seven shots after four games although Phil Brookes won 21-18 and Chris Simpson edged his match 21-20.

The George had three winners in the middle four – Ray Broadfield (21-11), Adrian Ford (21-13) and Stewart Medding (21-17) to go two shots up.

The players in the last four games held their nerve with Marc Wilson (21-9), Eric Winstone (21-12) and Mark Atkins (21-13) seeing The George home.

The George defend their Midland team championship crown on Sunday at M&B Bowling Club, Edgbaston.

They have a tough start tackling a tough Chadsmoor side.

**Draw:** Willenhall Libs v Bedworth, Castlefields v Kings Heath Park, Chadsmoor v The George, Hadley USC v Coundon.

## Dicken makes his senior mark

WEDNESBURY darter Matthew Dicken won his first match on the PDC Pro Tour during the PDC's UK Open qualifiers at Wigan's Robin Park Centre at the weekend.

He has made a name for himself on the Youth Tour.

The 20-year-old now is attempting to step up to the seniors and gave a good account of himself against Keith Rooney on Saturday, before going out by 6-4.

Dicken was back at the same venue for Sunday's second tournament and beat Sean Ryan before finding Peter Hudson a step too far.

## LANCASHIRE raider Simon Coupe scooped the prestigious CCF Open at West Bromwich Supporters Club.

A big crowd defied the weather to see the Preston man lift the title with a 21-13 victory over Shropshire's Spencer Clarke in the final. Coupe has been in top early season form and having lost in the final of the Tony Pagett Open, he went one better to land the £1,200 winner's cheque. He started with a difficult match against one of the Midlands' top players, Paul Lamb.

It was a tight affair and Coupe was relieved to get home 21-19.

He put away Stoke's Joe Melvin 21-14, but had to be at his best to scrape past surprise package Rob Burroughs.

The Telford youngster had accounted for defending champion Kerry Morris in the previous round and was looking at another big scalp when leading Coupe 16-11.

But brilliant bowling from Coupe edged him through 21-19.

Flamboyant Shropshire bowler Callum Wright was now the favourite after three emphatic victories and it was a classic battle of styles between his short marks and Coupe's corner tactics.

It was nip and tuck until a break of six shots towards the end saw Coupe into the final 21-18.

In the other half of the draw, Clarke opened with a stunning comeback win, trailing 2011 winner Dave McDermott 18-13 before rallying and denying his opponent a further shot.

Another fine finish took him past former Waterloo

### Bowls

winner Lee Heaton (Preston) 21-16 win before a 21-8 win over Shropshire colleague Wayne Phillips.

Selly Park's Pete Dunkley threatened in the semi-final when leading 17-12, but Clarke again produced his trademark strong finish to take a nailbiting 21-19 win.

Coupe goes to the BCGBA Champion of Champions event at the Waterloo Hotel, Blackpool in September.

**Results, round one:** Spencer Clarke 21 Dave McDermott 18, Lee Heaton 21 Ross Dunkley 16, Colin Beaman 19 Wayne Phillips 21, Craig Barker 21 Steve Pratt 19, Mike Tunstall 21 Steve Sterland 8, Derek Wright 19 Russell Pegram 21, Pete Dunkley 21 Paul Gamsby 9, Cliff Johnson 19 Kevin Keary 21, Kerry Morris 21 Tony Riley 17, Rob Burroughs 21 Gary Owen 18, Lee Brown 18 Joe Melvin 21, Simon Coupe 21 Paul Lamb 19, Callum Wright 21 Chris Ward 5, Craig Dugdale 18 Chris Bergin 21, Anthony Bracken 21 John Bailey 13, Graeme Wilson 21 Paul Latham 6.

**Round two:** Clarke 21 Heaton 16, Phillips 21 Barker 18, Tunstall 21 Pegram 20, Dunkley 21 Keary 7, Morris 19 Burroughs 21, Melvin 14 Coupe 21, Wright 21 Bergin 7, Bracken 16 Wilson 21.

**Round three:** Clarke 21 Phillips 8, Tunstall 16 Dunkley 21, Burroughs 19 Coupe 21, Wright 21 Wilson 16.

**Semi-finals:** Clarke 21 Dunkley 19, Coupe 21 Wright 18.

**Final:** Clarke 13 Coupe 21.

## Boys head for Wales after fundraising feat



Front, goalkeeper Jakob Green, aged eight, and team-mates at Bustleholme FC get set for the tournament

YOUNG footballers will go for glory at a national tournament after raising the money for the trip themselves.

Players from Walsall Junior League under-9s side Bustleholme FC, based in Wednesbury Oak Road, Tipton, will be playing in the Prestatyn Mitre Ultimate Cup in Prestatyn, Wales, at the

end of May after raising around £1,000 through supermarket bag packs, a race night and a Christmas cake raffle. They will also be having a quiz night.

All the proceeds from their fundraising efforts will be going to pay for coach travel, insurance and everything else they need to ensure they

can play in the tournament. Manager Brendan Appleyard said: "It's not a cheap thing to do. Families will be going along too – although all the adults are paying for themselves."

To get involved with sponsoring or fundraising, send an email to [brndanappleyard@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:brndanappleyard@hotmail.co.uk)



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# SPORT

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**Moneybags**  
Work at store pays  
for tournament  
**Page 39**



**Celt hero**  
Martial arts star  
wins top title  
**Page 39**



## Play-off hope as Yeltz win another

**Halesowen 1 King's Lynn 0**  
HALESOWEN kept their play-off dreams alive with a second consecutive league victory over a top-two side.

The battling Yeltz weathered an early storm from Evo-Stik Northern League First Division South title-chasers Kings Lynn.

Halesowen's 21st-minute winning goal was inspired by the tireless Ben Haseley.

He dragged the ball back from Phil Gulliver and slipped a neat reverse pass to set captain Neil Barnfield free to convert in front of goal.

The home defence held firm and Brendan Kelly made a good goal-line clearance before Halesowen created a series of further good chances to kill off the game against the in-form visitors.

Mitchell Botfield surged forward in the 58th minute after exchanging a neat one-two with Haseley, only for Daniel Gay to make a fine save.

Botfield then sent a through ball for Haseley to outpace Jason Lee, but Gay rescued his side again.

The Yeltz finished strongly but two late efforts from Aaron Griffiths were repelled.

Chasetown, also in the hunt for a play-off spot, drew 0-0 at home to Leek Town on Tuesday night to edge past the Yeltz into sixth place.

**Halesowen Town:** Evans; Bowen (Hull 67), Mescham, Botfield, Parker, Kelly, Griffiths, Barnfield, Warner, Haseley, Gueyves. **Substitutes not used:** Winsper, Baker, Hill, Flower.

**Kings Lynn Town:** Gay, Watson, Yong, Lee, Gulliver, Thomson (Jepson 73), Springs (Muready 73), Quigley, Dunstley, Tolley (Beaumont 73), Jacobs. **Substitutes not used:** P Fryatt, Butt.

## Cruel exit as tie goes to penalties

**Gornal Colts U16 1**  
**Halas Hawks U16 1**  
(Gornal won 9-8 on pens)

HALAS suffered an agonising Birmingham County Cup semi-final defeat after a marathon penalty shoot-out.

They led 1-0 through a Josh March header and were in control of the match until the final 10 minutes.

Gornal levelled with six minutes to go, but Hawks were unlucky not to snatch victory in extra time when Dan Willets went desperately close with the last kick of the game.

Gornal finally went through 9-8 after a 22-kick penalty shoot-out, but Halas will take great heart from getting this far in a competition entered by 300 teams.

**More Hawks - Page 39**



Dave Matthews, left, with Ron Atkinson

## Tributes after death of 'Mr Albion'

FORMER Baggies boss Ron Atkinson has led the tributes to Dave Matthews following the death of the man who was labelled "Mr Albion".

Matthews died suddenly at his Halesowen home on Sunday night at the age of 67.

The kitman was a veteran of more than 2,000 games, working with 24 different managers or head coaches through the triumphs and disappointments of a 50-year devotion to the club. "You will never meet a

### Albion

nicer guy," said Atkinson. "It is a terrible shock and just very, very sad. Dave was a terrific guy - absolutely terrific. You will not find anyone with a bad word for him."

"I only spoke to him last week about doing a foreword for a book he was planning and he was in good spirits. Albion never had a finer servant."

Smethwick-born Matthews grew up within sight of The

Hawthorns and, as a Baggies fan, recalled watching from his home as the stadium's floodlights were erected.

As a 15-year-old school-leaver, he applied for a job on the groundstaff and was offered the chance to assist the kitman until a suitable position became available. Half a century later he was still in the kit room and woven into the fabric of Hawthorns life.

Legendary striker Cyrille Regis said: "Dave was a dedi-

cated servant of Albion. Not many people spend 50 years in the same job, but Dave loved the club.

"It is amazing to think of the amount of emotion Dave must have gone through over the years, from winning cups to being relegated and all the trials and tribulations of the team."

He added: "In many ways Dave was 'Mr Albion'. And he was an awesome man. He had complete integrity and was respected by everyone."

## Last-day win gives Old Hales the title

OLD HALESONIANS men's hockey fourths took a last-day title victory.

They won the South West Division One championship in sensational style, a 1-0 win at Stourport enabling them to leapfrog Worcester.

The win gave Old Hales the title on goal difference, securing top spot by just seven goals over the course of the season.

The club also celebrated their 50th anniversary with a dinner dance at the Copthorne Hotel, Dudley.

Tom Bulteel was first XI player of the year and top scorer, while Lynn Fell won the ladies' player of the season with Annie Smith the top goalscorer.

Nathan Whitehouse and Gemma Taylor were player of the season for the men's and ladies' second teams respectively.

Aiden Lockyer, Chris Jones and Joe Thorn won the third, fourth and fifth team player of the season awards.

Second XI captain Mark Rigby was awarded the Simon Haddon Trophy for contribution to the club, and Stuart Wattleby picked up the Stuart Smith Cup for his umpiring.

The final trophy of the night, the Malcolm Rogers Plate, is presented by his widow Audrey. It marks outstanding contribution to the club and went to Reg Rogers.

Life memberships were awarded to club founders Phil Palmer and Barry Clews. David Butler was also awarded life membership, following his support over the years.

**Results:** Kings Heath 2 Old Hales Ladies 1st 2, Old Hales 2nds 2 Wolverhampton 0, Old Hales Ladies 2nds 5 Redditch 0, Stourport 0 Old Hales 4ths 1, Warwick 2 Old Hales 5ths 2.

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford, Thursday, April 18, 2013.

# BOSS WARNS OVER HIGH-PRICE STARS

**STEVE CLARKE has warned off Premier League rivals looking at Albion's stars, saying: "They will cost you a fortune."**

The Baggies boss insists he has no plans to sell any of his leading players this summer - and is already targeting three or four new faces. He warned would-be buyers to look elsewhere for new recruits, insisting they will not prize players out of The Hawthorns in cut-price deals.

"They aren't going to be cheap," said the Scot.

"I don't think anyone would be wise to come in for any of our players because they will cost a fortune."

Albion are braced for interest in the likes of Yousouf Mulumbu, Claudio Yacob, James Morrison and Shane Long.

All have again displayed impressive form with the Baggies on course to beat last season's 10th-place finish - their highest ever in the Premier League.

**Admitted**  
But Clarke is already looking at strengthening his squad for his second campaign at the helm.

And he admitted he could need even more reinforcements should rival clubs break the bank to take players away from the Baggies.

"In an ideal world we'd get early signings," he said.

"But the early signing last summer was Ben Foster and the others came in over the course of pre-season."

"As long as we get to the start of pre-season and we've improved the squad, when they come in is irrelevant."

"It's difficult to speculate on numbers because you don't know how many clubs are going to try and take some of your players."

"That can happen. It's

by Steve Madeley

football and it's an open window.

"At the moment, looking at the squad, if we were to bring in three or four that would be enough - but things can change."

Clarke expects his squad to be bolstered in pre-season training by the return of young midfielder George Thorne and veteran wideman Zoltan Gera.

Both players had their current seasons cut short by cruciate knee ligament injuries.

Clarke said: "They are both making progress."

Meanwhile, Clarke also confirmed that defensive prospect Craig Dawson could get a chance to shine in Albion's Premier League run-in.

The England Under-21s star has been a key figure in Bolton's surge towards the Championship play-offs.

But his 93-day loan at the Reebok Stadium ends on April 27.

That rules Dawson out of Bolton's final game of the season at home to Blackpool and the play-offs, should Dougie Freedman's side end by claiming a top-six finishing place.

Clarke said: "He's available for the last four games."

"He will be back and will be available for selection."

## Tigers, Tigers burning bright after great season



Barford Tigers, from left, Stacey Nash, captain Leanne Homer and Charn Gill mark the end of a perfect season

BARFORD women's hockey team completed their perfect league campaign with a big victory over Droitwich seconds.

They finished with a played 16, won 16 record in Worcestershire Division Three scoring 86 goals and conceding none - a first for the league.

The Tigers started quickly, forcing two fine saves, and broke through in the eighth minute.

Captain Leanne Homer exchanged passes with midfield partner Sarah

### Barford Tigers 8 Droitwich Ladies 0

Skidmore and ghosted past two defenders before opening the scoring from the top of the D.

The second came when a defence-splitting pass from Skidmore sent Charn Gill racing through; she reached the ball moments before the Droitwich keeper and, despite being floored, managed to lift it into the net.

Homer clinically despatched Stacey Nash's cross for the third and there

was still time for a fourth goal before the interval. Laura Brain sent Roohi Faruque away down the left and she rounded several defenders before slipping the ball to Gill for the finish.

Gill and Homer completed their hat-tricks in the second half and although Droitwich never caved in, Skidmore and Nash added further goals.

On the back of this success, Barford Tigers are looking to form a second team next season. Details are on the club website at www.bthc.org.uk

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